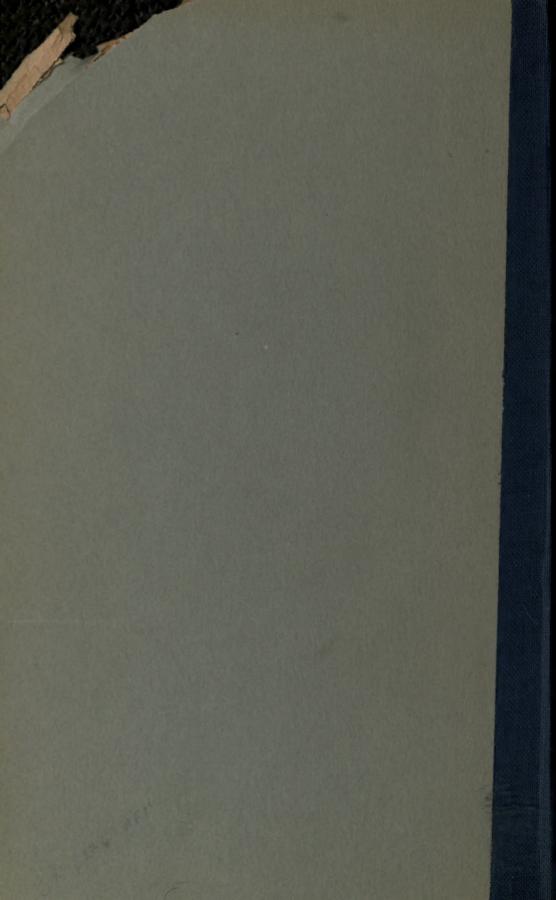
Labour Party (Gt. Brit.)
Report of the annual conference
1918

JN 1129 L3A35 1918



REPORT

OF THE

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-CONSTITUTION, Section 111.

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THE LABOUR PARTY

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Ratisci Labour Party (Gt. Britain

REPORT

OF THE

ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE LABOUR PARTY

held in the Albert Hall, Nottingham, on Wednesday, January 23rd, 1918, and two following days,

AND THE

ADJOURNED CONFERENCE

held in the Central Hall, Westminster, London, S.W., on Tuesday, February 26th, 1918.

14/1/3/19

THE LABOUR PARTY.

1. VICTORIA STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W. 1.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF

THE LABOUR PARTY,

Elected January 24th, 1918.

Chairman: W. FRANK PURDY (Shipwrights).

Vice-Chairman:
J. McGURK
(Miners' Federation).

JN 1129 L3A35 1918

J. RAMSAY MACDONALD, M.P. (I.L.P.).

W. C. ANDERSON, M.P. (I.L.P.).

A. G. CAMERON
(A.S. Carpenters and Joiners).

W. CARTER (Miners' Federation).

J. R. CLYNES, M.P. (General Workers).

TOM FOX
(British Labour Amalgamation).

W. H. HUTCHINSON (A.S. Engineers).

F. W. JOWETT, M.P. (I.L.P.).

W. C. ROBINSON, J.P. (United Textile Factory Workers).

BEN TURNER, J.P. (General Union of Textile Workers)

EGERTON P. WAKE

(Trades Councils, Local Labour Parties, and Women's Labour League).

GEORGE J. WARDLE, M.P. (Railwaymen).

SIDNEY WEBB (Fabian Society).

JAMES WIGNALL

(Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers).

Secretary:

RT. HON. ARTHUR HENDERSON, M.P., I, VICTORIA STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W. I.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

INTERNATIONAL

During the past twelve meaning the work of the formula mittee has been dominated very largely by its affect to the fiplomacy, and across and attenuous affects the fiplomacy, and across and attenuous affects the fiplomacy, and across with a view to the affects possess to an International Confessor Different possess to the Allied National Confessor Different at home paralleled by similar distribution of the Allied National traffic with the change occasioned in the whole International either the traffic difficult in the extreme

Almost immediately after our Party Conference at Mandale the French Socialist Party endravoured to serve a Conference of March 13th. The Executive, is the first indicate agreed to appoint ten delegates, but also service and the decision rescinded by a small majority, with the result that the Conference was postponed.

In the meantime, the Hendquarters of the International Socialise Bureau had been removed to Stockholm where the Datch seemen with Camille Huysmans, the secretary, in respected to an invitation from the Swedish and Dunish Socialist Parties, agreed to co-operate in the forming of a Dutch-Scardinavian Committee presided says by Hjalmar Branden. the leader of the Swedish Party, and one of the of the Allied Nations' policy in the neutral nations. This Committee sought to arrange consultations at Stockholm with delegates of the various nationalities engaged in the War. An arritation was received by the various affiliated sections in this country in May, and was very carefully considered by the Party Executive in the light of the smolutions and discussions on the "International" at the Manchester Conference of the Party in January, 1917. It was absorbed dealed that the invitation should not be accepted, but that an attempt should be made to convene a meeting of the Labour and Socialist Parties of the Alliest Nations in London, preferably at the cod of lone, is being colorated that the American Potention of Labour about the invited to particular It was also agreed that all majority and minurity sections of the Allimi l'arties should be invited, and that no resolutions of a binding character should be carried, but that difference process should be discussed and placed on record.

Within two or three date of this decrease and soldiers. Departments organisation representing the forces responsible for the Results Bridge tion—had decided to been unvitations to the Socialist and Labor Partment.

of all nations to a Conference with a view to securing the adoption of a general Working-Class Peace Policy. The Executive were unanimously of opinion, when this invitation was reported, that arrangements for the proposed Inter-Allied Conference should be suspended until further information regarding the Russian proposal was forthcoming. deputation was appointed to proceed to Petrograd for this purpose, and, if desirable, with permission to consult with Branting and his colleagues at Stockholm. Owing to reasons with which delegates will be familiar, the official deputation (Messrs, G. H. Roberts, M.P., and W. Carter) did not leave for Petrograd. The Executive Committee thereupon agreed, before deciding on any further action, to await the return of Mr. Henderson, who had proceeded to Petrograd at an earlier date on a Government mission. Mr. Henderson returned to London and arrived at the same time as four representatives of the Russian Council of Workmen's and Soldiers' Deputies (Messrs. Roussanoff, Erlich, Smirnoff, and Goldenberg). Consultations with the Party Executive were immediately arranged, and it was made abundantly clear by the Russian delegates that it was proposed to hold the International Conference at Stockholm whether the British Party decided to be represented or not, and that there were important reasons for it being convened without delay.

The Party Executive also agreed that the Inter-Allied Conference should be proceeded with, recommended that it should be summoned by the British Section of the I.S.B. for August 8th and 9th, and that a Special Party Conference should be called for the purpose of receiving a report of the Inter-Allied Conference and to decide whether the Party should be represented at the International Conference at Stockholm. The Executive agreed, by 5 votes to 2, to recommend to the Special Conference that the invitation should be accepted conditionally upon the gathering being of the nature of a consultation and that no binding resolutions should be adopted.

The conditions governing the International Conference (see page 43) were as unsatisfactory to the French Socialist Party as to the Party Executive, and when the Executive met on July 25th an invitation was reported from the French Socialist Party for a deputation from the Executive to accompany the Russian delegates to Paris to examine the new invitation. Messrs. Henderson, Wardle, and MacDonald were appointed for this purpose, and, in company with the Russian delegates, proceeded to Paris on July 27th. Consultations there took place upon the Russian invitation, with the result that a series of resolutions regarding the procedure of the Conference was decided upon and a recommendation made that it should be postponed until September 9th (see page 45). It was also decided that the Inter-Allied Conference, which the British Section of the I.S.B. had already summoned, should be postponed until August 28th and 29th. These changes were endorsed by the British Section and the Party Executive and the postponement of the International Conference was accepted by the Organising Bureau of the Conference.

Under all these circumstances the Executive decided that a Special Party Conference should be held as originally proposed, and this took place at the Central Hall, Westminster, on Friday, August 10th, 1917, Mr. W. F. Purdy presided, and Mr. Henderson made a lengthy statement on the whole position of affairs. (See page 47.)

in accordance with its meanity decision the Emergine mean-

"That the divitation to the International Conference at "teckholm be accepted on amotiving that the Conference be now-littly and not manufactory."

To this the following assentiment was moved -

That this Coulomb having been the statement of the High I for a destre to serve the best entered at the British Tary, is at the opinion that me can be be a positionant of delegate to the Statement of delegate to the Statement of the Statement o

After discussion the amendment was defeated by 1,651,000 to 301,000, and upon the Executive's readefine being put as a substantiamotion, it was adopted by the average lesing water of 1,845,000 to 1,500 as

The Executive then recommended

That the Party delegation sends of 24 expressions the Executive to appoint eight, the Parisa entary Committee at the Irades Union Congress to be invited to appoint eight and the present Special Conference to appoint eight; this sertional representation to be equally reduced about direct sections.

To this, on the initiative of the Mineral I character of Green Bellings, the Conference, by 1.813,000 to 432,000, decaded to add

but no further additions thereto shall be permitted from any affaired or unaffaired body in the country.

As the latter condition infrared the term of the invitation to the stockholm Conference, in so far as it restricted the translation of the property and the same discussion of the same

The Executive also submitted to the Special Party Linds of Draft Memorandum on War I made which it proposed also be mitted, after account to the Inter-All and I memorand to the Desire to the Peace that the Desire to the delagate, to the Press, and to affiliated societies with a request for amendments with a view to delay the plant of the silverned Conference.

The density vote of the Special Conference to arrapt the Letters to the Stockholm Conference came as a great surprise to the Errorsment, as well as to large sections of the Press and public. Mr. Hendred was widely attacked as being public of will be a large of the state of the Conference respective the alleged change of the set in Stockholm proposal held by the Russian Revolutionary Great and the large of the set of the large of t

the Prime Minister (Mr. Lloyd George) with a breach of faith as a member of the War Cabinet. He therefore resigned office as a member of the Government on August 11th in the following terms:—

Offices of the War Cabinet. 2, Whitehall Gardens,

August 11th, 1917.

DEAR PRIME MINISTER,

At our interview last night I gathered you had reached the conclusion that my retention of the post of Secretary to the Labour Party was no longer compatible with my membership of the War Cabinet. Recent experiences have impressed me with the embarrassing complications arising from this duality of office. In these circumstances, therefore, I deem it advisable to ask you to release me from further membership of your Government.

I continue to share your desire that the war should be carried to a successful conclusion, and trust that in a non-Government capacity I may be able to render some little assistance to this end.

I remain.

Yours sincerely,
ARTHUR HENDERSON.

The adjourned Conference met in London on August 21st, when it was reported that the Dutch-Scandinavian Committee had accepted the conditions governing the Stockholm Conference as laid down by the Paris Delegation.

It should also be put on record that after the Conference on August 10th the Government announced that no passports would be issued to British delegates desiring to attend the Stockholm Conference, and it was made apparent that this decision had been come to by the Government prior to the holding of the Conference on August 10th, but the announcement had been withheld in order not to prejudice the decisions of the Conference.

At the opening of the Special Conference the Russian delegates were welcomed by the Chairman, Mr. W. F. Purdy, and M. Roussanoff suitably responded. This was followed by a comprehensive statement by Mr. Henderson, in which he repudiated the charges of bad faith that had been made against him, and explained the misapprehension and consequent misrepresentation that had arisen with regard to the views of Kerenski and his associates of the Russian Government on the Stockholm proposal.

The following Resolution was then submitted on behalf of the Executive Committee:—

"That the Conference remains of opinion that it is desirable for the British Labour Party to be represented at the International Socialist Congress which is about to be held, in order that the opinions of the Party may not be misunderstood and misrepresented; the Conference notes with regret that the Government has expressed an intention of refusing passports and licenses for this purpose, and directs that a representation be made to the Government on the subject."

To this, an addition was proposed by the Besiels Sacialist Parcy to the following effect:-

"Furthermore, the policy of the Labour Party new being admittedly incompatible with the Government, this Continuous decides to withdraw the Labour Party representatives from participation as the Government."

After some debate the amendment was will shown an representations being made that the delegates had had no opportunity of complication on what was a proposal of vital importance to the Movement as a whole

A further americanst, proposing that the whole question should be decided by a referendum of the pseudors of the Toule Dates affiliated to the Party, was discussed, and was ultimately defeated by Licenses to 920,000.

The resolution, as submitted by the Party Executive, was then voted upon and carried by 1,234,000 to 1,231,000

The Executive then presented the tellewing Resolution as an amountment to that which was under discussion when the previous Conference adjourned —

"That on the assumption that the various bodies and in the independently represented at the International Sociality and Labour Congress appoint ten delegates as all just I I I there B.S.P., four; and Fabian Society, that the Labour Party limbs be represented by 24 delegates, namely, eight from the Labour Party limbs be represented by 24 delegates, namely, eight from the Labour Murchinson, Warnall), eight from the Party Labour Labour Hutchinson, Warnall), eight from the Party Labour Labour the Trades Union Congress, and eight to be selected at the selecting of the Conference on August 21st, the Executive Committee arranging substitutes, if recovery, in any of the above named who may be unable to attend."

This was debated and was finally defeated by 1.538 000 to 785 000

A further proposal that the whole of the Stockholm Delegation be elected from and by the delegates of the Conference was deleated by 1,814,000 to 377,000.

Subsequently, the Resolution as adopted by the provious Conference in the following terms was again re-affirmed by 2,121,000 to 113,000 -

"That the Party Delegation consist of 24 representatives the Executive to appoint eight, the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress to be invited to appear which and the present Special Conference to appear with the presentation to be equally reduced should be permitted from any affinite or unaffiliated body in this country."

After further discussion it was then agreed that it was bandrouble to proceed to the election of delegates that day, and by the 100 to 670,000 it was decided that the Conference should be allowed after the holding of an Inter-Allied Conference, when further action for the Stockholm Delegation would be invited.

Subsequent to the Conference, the Executive task into conference a number of amendments to the Memoranders of The Land of the War "proposed by various affiliated Societies, and embodied the majority of them in the draft.

Protests were received from the Russian delegates and from the Dutch-Scandinavian Committee against the decision of the Conference restricting the delegation of the Minority sections, and representations were also received from the I.L.P. on the subject.

In the meantime arrangements had been made for the holding of the Inter-Allied Conference which met in London on August 28th and 29th. There were 68 delegates in attendance representing eight nationalities as follows:—

| Belgium | | . 2 | Russia | | 4 |
|--------------|---|------|---------------|---|----|
| France | 9 | . 12 | Italy | | 4 |
| Portugal | | . 2 | Greece | ь | 1 |
| South Africa | | . 1 | Great Britain | | 41 |

Cablegrams and messages were also reported from Socialist and Labour organisations in Australia, Salonica, Johannesburg, and a telegram from M. Cammille Huysmans explained his absence owing to passports having been delayed until the opening day of the Conference.

The Conference appointed a Press Committee after a motion to hold public sessions had been put forward, discussed and defeated.

A Standing Orders Committee was also appointed to discuss and report upon procedure.

Mr. Henderson then extended a welcome to the delegates on behalf of the British Movement, impressed upon them the importance of the Conference, and indicated the desire of the British Section in convening the gathering that there should be no voting down of minorities by majorities, but that an attempt should be made to secure unanimous findings, and where such was impossible, the differing views should be placed on record. By this means he hoped it might be possible by mutual agreement to reach a basis of War Aims likely to prove acceptable to those whom the Conference represented and which might be calculated to provide a lasting, honourable and democratic peace.

Considerable discussion followed on the question of procedure, and an adjournment was agreed upon pending consideration and the presenting of a report by the Standing Orders Committee.

Upon re-assembling later in the day, the Committee recommended that two Commissions should be appointed to report to the Conference on the following day on

- (a) The Stockholm Congress.
- (b) The various Memoranda on War Aims which had been put forward by constituent organisations represented at the Conference.

It was proposed that the first Committee should consist of a maximum of two delegates from each country, and the latter a maximum of five delegates from each country.

It was agreed that votes should be allocated in accordance with international practice as follows:—

| France | 20 | Italy | 10 |
|---------------|--------|--------------|----------|
| Great Britain | | T 1 | 2 |
| Russia | 20 | | |
| Belgium | 12 | South Africa | 1. 1 |

At one point the French matrity settle delical to make a representatives to the first Commission, but a proceed by the Conference there and the left to the process of their attitude and the manuality of several of their settlements.

A statement was also presented on behalf of the Russian delegates that in view of the Conference being commutative only, they had waived their previous objection to participating in the discussions and were prepared to take full part in the Conference.

This concluded the business of the first Lay.

On Wednesday, the Commissions met at an early how but it was not until the afternoon that either were in a position to report to the Conference.

Mr. J. Ramsay MarDinald reported that the Commission is Stockholm had not been able to secure a season report, but be presented the statements indicated below on behalf of the empery and minority section of the Commission, and stated the various ar-

"That the Commission will try to find our on what combined the Sections are unanimously prepared to resume international relations."

This was put forward by M. de Prouckers at he all of the Moon of the Commission but was defeated, the Prouckers and only at the last terring their protests against the Governments will be a second to the commission of the commis

Mr. H. M. Hyndman, on behalf of the National Socialist Party, then moved:—

"That this Conference declars against section of delegates to the International Socialist Conference at Stockless, as the to consult with German Social Democrats, so long as the Geography the territories they have select and carry or the respective of murder, outrage and parcy."

Voting took place upon this proposal, and it was hoursly debuted.

The following section of the Majority Report of the Cammission was then discussed and finally carried -

"The Confronce, taking into consideration the following facts:-

- That there are great political problems afferting the democracy which have been raised or brought into pruning by the War;
- (2) That no mere military vertery or Pears arranged by secret diplomacy or by capitalist featurements can secure to the Peoples of Europe the partice and the liberty which are the conditions of International Goodwell;
- (3) That in every country the capitalist Prim under the control of Government council is misleading the people and is preventing them from understanding what are the matters and intentions of the belligarest nations; and family
- (4) That the original War Aims put below the Albeit Democracies, viz.—Liberation of Peoples from galling yours and of National from oppressive Militarium—threaten to end in Compett and Imperialism;

"Declares that it is necessary that the Democracies should be able to confer directly together so that the War Aims of the various Nations may be made clear, and the conditions of a Peace which will really end Militarism in Europe, be discussed;

"The Conference therefore welcomes the invitation to the Stockholm Congress issued by the Soviet in accord with the Dutch-Scandinavian Committee, and supports particularly the provision that minorities as well as majorities ought to be represented in order that the Congress may be fully representative and therefore be in a position to judge the problems from every point of view."

Mr. Bernard Shaw suggested that the Conference should unanimously endorse the French majority protest against the withholding of passports, and Mr. MacDonald, after consultation with his colleagues of the Commission, amended the final paragraph of the Majority Report, which was adopted as follows:—

"In view of the declarations of the Allied Governments that they have decided to refuse passports for the delegates to the Congress, this Conference enters its emphatic protest against such decisions concerning the Stockholm or any other similar Conference which the Inter-Allied Socialists agree to attend. The Conference will support every effort taken to change the decisions announced by the Governments."

In the course of the foregoing discussion a proposal was made that the Conference should continue its sittings on Thursday. Voting by show of hands showed equally divided opinion (21 each way) and the Chairman announced that the proposal was not carried.

The report of the second Commission was presented by Mr. Sidney Webb, to the effect that unanimity had not been reached, separate statements having been placed on record by the French and Belgians (in one document), the Russians, the Portuguese, the British Labour Party (together with a Memorandum of Annotations by the I.L.P.), and the British Socialist Party. The Italians submitted statements subsequently.

The Commission proposed the appointment of a Standing Committee representative of the various Allied National Parties in order that the various questions might be further considered with a view to the summoning of another Conference of the Allied Countries in preparation for the International Socialist Congress.

Considerable discussion followed, and ultimately the proposal was carried by a narrow majority.

It was agreed that each country be invited to appoint two representatives.

A proposal from the second Commission that representations should be made to President Wilson either by deputation or by letter was withdrawn after strong opposition had been put forward by several sections.

A resolution of congratulation on the Russian Revolution was unanimously carried.

The following statement, signed by various markers of the Property Belgian, British and Italian majority with a war and its light of the Challeng at the conclusion :—

"At the end of the work of this Conference and is uniformly with the conditions on which it was called and by reason of the manner in which it is constituted, the Sections and parts of Sections signatory to this Statement call attention to the last that they cannot attribute any importance to the majority vote an endouged principle, and cannot consider it as representing the special the Conference.

"They demand, in execution of the premises made that the votes should not be made public."

It cannot be discussed that the outcome of the later Alled inference was wholly disappointing, and it was fortunate that the
operation of the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Compress
which had been so willingly accorded, led to the Passative a florts
continued with some prospect of results not altegether trades. The
Trades Union Congress met at Blackgood on September 4th and the
Parliamentary Committee put forward the following agreed remendation:—

"We have come to the conclusion that a Conference at Stockholm at the present moment could not be accounted and in the light of all the circumstances we make the following recommendations.

(1) We recommend that the Parametriary County attends in every possible way to scrape get all agree ent of a amongst the working classes of the AL-2 Nations, as in opinion, this is a fundamental condition of a surrent a fetcinational Congress.

(2) We are strongly of opinion that an International Labour and Socialist Congress would be of the grantest service and is a necessary preliminary to the condenses of histogram democratic Peace and we reconstruct that the Trade Union Congress Parliamentary Committee be supported to arrange and take part in such a Conference.

(3) We think that the participation of the Trade Union Largest should be subject to the conditions outlined in recommendation [1] and to the further condition that the seeing about he by nationalities, sectional bodies within nationalities to be governed by the majority of the nationality or alternatively that each section about he given voting passer according to

the number of persons actually represented.

"We desire to make it clearly understical that the above recommendation arises out of the internal difficulties revealed at the Inter-Allied Conference and chewhere, and are in me way ownsequent upon the decisions of Governments to refuse pumports to the Stockholm Conference. In the opinion of your Committee see Government has any mucht to prevent an expression of belong by the working classes of its country, and we regard the action of the Government in this matter as an unwarrantable injuriences with our rights as citizens. The workers of this roundry have made enormous sacrifices in life and liberties and are entitled to a commanding voice in the settlement of peace. We recommend that this Congress should enter an emphatic protest against the action of the Government in refusing passports and domain that is the secut of an International Congress taking place on the linea recommended no obstacles shall be placed in the way of the delegates from any country

This was confessedly a compromise proposal and was moved as such by Mr. Robert Smillie, seconded by Mr. Will Thorne, M.P., and, after a vigorous debate, was adopted by 2,849,000 to 91,000.

The Executive Committee met at Blackpool immediately after the Congress had given its decision and adopted the following resolution:—

That the Executive of the Labour Party having received a report from its representatives at the Inter-Allied Conference, places on record its deep regret at the failure of the delegates to reach agreement with regard to War Aims and the conditions of an International Conference. The Executive accepts as a basis for considering joint action by the two bodies the recommendations of the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress which were endorsed by such an overwhelming majority of the Congress. The Executive further agrees that until some measure of agreement on War Aims, which are so fundamental to democracy and humanity, is reached, the adjourned Conference of the Labour Party, and the nomination of delegates, be not proceeded with, but that the draft War Aims be circulated to all the affiliated organisations with the request that they be brought to the notice of their members preparatory to their consideration at a subsequent Conference."

The Executive Committee afterwards met the Parliamentary Committee in conference, when it was decided that the two bodies should henceforward formally co-operate in their efforts to secure first National, secondly Inter-Allied, and ultimately International agreement.

Later in the month the two Committees again met, and appointed a Joint International Sub-Committee, which immediately took in hand the re-drafting of the Memorandum on War Aims, with a view to securing an agreed policy on behalf of the British Movement for subsequent presentation to a further Inter-Allied Conference. This Memorandum was considered in proof by the two Committees separately, and was finally endorsed by a Joint Meeting of both bodies.

A Joint Conference of the Societies affiliated to the Congress and the Party was then held in London on December 28th, when the Memorandum was endorsed with practical unanimity by the whole Conference. after a proposal to adjourn its consideration for a month had been defeated by 2,132,000 to 1,164,000.

The two Committees got into immediate touch with the Prime Minister, and presented the document by personal deputation at Downing Street the same evening, when a frank discussion took place upon points of chief importance embodied in the Memorandum.

Arrangements are now going forward with the object of securing a further Conference with the representatives of the French and other Allied Parties in London on February 20th, 1918.

IRELAND.

At its meeting on March 6th, when the Irish Home Rule question was at an acute stage, the Executive passed the following Resolution, which was forwarded to the Government:—

"That the Executive Committee of the Labour Party expresses strongly the view that in the interests equally of Great Britain and Ireland, a further united effort should be made to reach a settlement of the Irish question, and urges the Government to take the necessary steps in this direction."

As is now known, the Government to a the same of instruction Notice I fish Convention, representative of a convention of Figure 1. The the Chairmanship of Sie Herre 1. Instruction of the party of a section protracted, then have been in factions of the party of a section and the faction of the party of a section ment on a self-governing policy is likely at the deliberation.

NATIONAL LABOUR MEMORIAL DE FREEDOM AND PEACE.

A harden reported elsewhere, one of the chief according the very harden to construct the Trade Union Congress and the Party; but the set of back that continue to handkap may only a factor Movement is the lack of small and want I activities.

Arising not of the discussions that have taken place at the person of a proposal was put forward that the person of a person of a National Labour Institute, which we is a fitting Memorial to the valour and secretics of the brook of the of Trade Unionists and Labour supporters who have falled in the War, and at the same time provide the Movement with a secretic as will conduce to its extended efficiency and widered artists.

The Parhamentary Committee of the Free Unit Committee of the Executive of the Party have untuilly arred to a special Joint Conference of the whole organized to be held in Nottingham on Touries, January 22 1915 to be held in Nottingham on Touries, January 22 1915 to be prior to the Annual Conference. It is proposed to the Institute should be situated in London and be the Hamiltonian British Organized Labour with a ferrice of the Party, reading room, and hatel and read to the Union and Labour deligate to be leading to the National Institute on Labour a deliver to be housed at the National Institute and the Institute of the Instit

Once the capital sum to erect and horses the building has be secured, we are advised that a substantial arrest ten would remove at the disposal of the trustoes. It is proposed that subspecies and balance from the original found should be desired to the landing of Scholarships, Boarding School or University charge, are the absolute assistance for the children of members of Truste Union and Linear organisations who have been killed in a time or maked in the Was-

In order to secure a Memorial is every was worthy of the organised Labour Movement of the country it is loyed that a sum of (200,000) may be secured, the final to be vested in testes trusteen representative of the Trades Union Congress and the National Labour Party.

We strongly recommend the proposed Memorial of France in the control of the organized Labour Movement. Whatever the state in support of local effect only with a silent as worthy measurement to the worthy deals of control of the National Labour Institute will meet an essential med by providing to the growing activities, and by its comments and asset as the last activities.

credit to the entire Movement. The assistance to the children is in no way intended to substitute the educational duties rightly falling to the State, but we cannot deny the fullest educational opportunities and facilities to these children, and, therefore, we cannot wait until the State is prepared to accept its full obligation.

The following Resolutions agreed to by the two National Committees are to be submitted to the Special Conference:—

I.

"That in order to commemorate the heroic deeds and unselfish devotion of those members of British Trade Unions and other Labour Organisations who were killed in action or died of wounds, or who were incapacitated by any form of service in the War, we recommend the Trade Union and Labour Movement to institute a permanent Memorial of Freedom and Peace."

II.

"That this Conference recommends the affiliated organisations to contribute to the Memorial Fund an equivalent amount of one shilling for each male member and sixpence for each female member, the Executive Committee of each organisation to decide as to the method of obtaining the approval of its members on this proposed payment from the general funds; it further recommends that the full amount from each organisation be placed at the disposal of the trustees not later than December 31st, 1919.

"That in addition to the equivalent payment from the organisations, the branch and other local officials be requested to assist the trustees by organising collections on behalf of the Fund in Public and other Labour Meetings, with a special effort on the declaration of Peace in every town and district throughout the country."

III.

"That this Joint Conference, representing the societies affiliated to the Trades Union Congress and the National Labour Party, affirms the election of Messrs. J. W. Ogden, W. J. Davis, J.P., H. Gosling, J.P., J. Hill, J.P., J. H. Thomas, M.P., and C. W. Bowerman, M.P., as Trustees representing the Trades Union Congress, and of Messrs. J. R. Clynes, M.P., J. Ramsay MacDonald, M.P., W. C. Robinson, J.P., Robert Smillie, J.P., J. Wignall, J.P., and Arthur Henderson, M.P., as Trustees representing the National Labour Party."

IV.

"That the trustees are hereby empowered to invest any funds with which they are provided for the purpose of instituting a Memorial of Freedom and Peace in purchasing a suitable site in London and crecting and furnishing a National Labour Institute, and are authorised to apply all the profits and any balances from the capital sum to the founding of Scholarships, for Boarding School or University charges, or other educational assistance for the children of members of Trade Unions or other organisations affiliated to the Trades Union Congress or the Labour Party who were killed in action or incapacitated in connection with the War."

PARTY RECOGNANTSATION.

The prespective emethods of the Especialism of the Party Solid which is addition to enfrance in the present the present of the Executive Committee agriculty to enable whether the party structure and machinery are adequate to man with the second transce. There has been a restable exercise in the community in the work of the Party and its farmed development, and during recent menths a solid and whom party of enquiry both as to our school principles and have particularly as to our proposals to reconstruction after the War.

The strain imposed by the second seco

Labour policy on the National Food Supply and the second supply advantage of that propounded by other political second supply adopted after suffering month of learning and second supply and pensions for the men with the class of the description of the men with the class of the description of the purpose, constant Labour pressure, particularly the labour Organisations throughout the country, and the labour first the right direction.

All these circumstances have been car occasion for the distributed of a certain amount of community conscious and the Posts and the Posts are definitely accepted by ever increasing manufactor the particle at the expression.

When the Executive Committee, therefore at the second of the Secretary, considered the possible development of the Party is the term was general aranimity as to the lase that allowed by all the was felt very strongly that our machinery about be aligned to as to bring into the ranks of the Party three large sections of the possible for various reasons, have neither the recently appear to the Trade Unions on the one hand, or, on the other, who are not prepared to associate with the Socialist or animations are not affaired with the Party.

It was also commonly agreed that special facilities should be allerted to the prospective women elector to our our rade. Neverthele have taken place with the Women's Labout League and it appeared that the League should become merged with the Party, that special expensions should be allocated to women on the Party Executive, and that a Women's Advisory Committee should be appointed. It is proposed that "The Labour Women," the monthly organ of the League sessions of the Women's side of the Movement should be held in our junction with future Party Conferences.

Further, in view of the adoption of the alternative vote in future elections, the Executive agreed that the Party would be well advised to multiply its candidatures, and that it should aim at forming Local Labour Parties in as many of the redistributed constituencies as possible. A Sub-Committee was appointed to go into the whole matter, to consider the existing Party Constitution and to report as to desirable amendments.

Our affiliated Societies have already been informed as to the results of their work, and revised Constitutions have been issued in draft for their consideration. Amendments to these proposals have been invited and the whole matter has been made the subject of a separate agenda for discussion at the forthcoming Conference.

JOINT WORKING WITH THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE OF THE TRADES UNION CONGRESS.

Probably in no previous period of the Party's history has there been such close co-operation between the Executive Committee and the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress as during the past twelve months.

Joint meetings have been frequent prior to the Blackpool Trade Union Congress, but subsequently arrangements were made for regular monthly Joint Meetings, and there is now a steady development in the direction of each Committee remitting for joint consideration the more important matters that come before them which affect the Labour Movement in its wider aspects.

ELECTORAL REFORM.

At a joint meeting of the two Committees, held at the opening of the last Parliamentary session, consideration was given to the findings of the Speaker's Conference on Electoral Reform, and the two Committees co-operated in convening a Special Conference on the subject. This was held at the Central Hall, Westminster, on March 20th, under the presidency of Mr. John Hill, when reports upon the work and recommendations of the Speaker's Conference were presented by Mr. G. J. Wardle, M.P., Mr. F. W. Goldstone, M.P., and Mr. Stephen Walsh, M.P., who represented the Party on the Speaker's Conference.

The following Resolution was finally adopted:-

"That this Conference, representing the industrial and political organisations of the working class, both men and women, while adhering to the repeated demands for complete Adult Suffrage, and other such reforms in registration and constituencies as will make elections clearly representative of the popular will, welcomes the efforts made by the Speaker's Conference to arrive at an agreement upon these questions; it is of opinion that the Parliamentary Labour Party should support, as a minimum, the Resolutions of the Speaker's Conference, provided that the Enfranchisement of Women, including women wage-carners and widows, is agreed to, and calls for immediate legislation on the general lines of the Report, so that a decision of a truly national character may be given at the forthcoming General Election."

"This Conference further requests the Parliamentary Labour Party to endeavour to secure the inclusion of women on the broadest possible basis, and especially to ensure that the bulk of the wage-earning women are not excluded from any Franchise Measure."

In the course of his address as I strong I belong to the Hadrest Trade Union Congress in September, Mr. H. Andrews and the Representative of the Address of Commons, and the water to the Congress that had been made in one of the convention of the Special Committee which had been set up to consider the Representative Committee which had been set

Later in the week the President of the Course Mr. John Hollintenated that the Parliamentary Conscitive had considered the positives of the Bill being delayed, and indicated that proof the factor will be taken in bringing pressure to boar upon the Governor.

Subsequently, at the Joint Meeting of the two National Committees held on September 27th, the following Resolution was unanimally

carried -

"That this Joint Meeting of the Parameters Committee the Trades Union Congress and the Farcetty Committee the Labour Party views with the grave appealment the latest expressed in various quariers of setting the operation of the Foundation of the Foundation of the House of Lordsy, has been control in the set.

"That this meeting emphatically protests against any delain bringing into operation a long-delayed and small combacratic Reform which has now become a safter of companies and all sections of opinion represented in the Speaker's Conference

"That in view of the advanced stage to which the ball attained in the House of Common, this results are the property of that any deliberate attempt to hold up the Representation of the People Bill and thus force a General Election upon the obsolete register would amount to a national stage of the Bill ought accordingly to be as promptly as partially and put immediately into operation, so that the Bill ought accordingly into operation, so that the Bill of the manifest at the Bill of the

A joint deputation was also appointed to present the Research to the Prime Minister who, in reply to the representation and the characteristic that so far as the Government was concerned they proposed to prove with the Bill immediately the House of Common proposed and the decrease, and to press it forward through all its stage.

When Parliament rose in Docember, the had pused through the House of Commons and was under consideration by the House of Land.

INDUSTRIAL CONSCRIPTIONS

At the conclusion of the discussion on Electoral Relation at the Special Conference held on March 20th, the left in the Industrial Compulsion was put forward on held of the two National Committees, and after discussion was sense.

"That the Conference of Organised Lawer, lawing the the question of National Service, it is placed that any less of Industrial Compulsive would be disastron to the tion of the war and should be accordy resistable Organisation of the workers and calls for their revision with respect to the resistable employment; and further instructs the Sab Computer this decision by deputation to the Prime Minister.

"In the event of the Government proceeding to legislate for Industrial Compulsion that a Special Conference be called to decide what action should be taken in order effectively to resist the Government's proposals."

The resolution was subsequently presented to the Prime Minister in conjunction with that dealing with Electoral Reform.

In replying to the representations made, Mr. Lloyd George, who was accompanied by Mr. Nevill Chamberlain (Director of National Service), indicated the seriousness of the existing military position, but stated that the Government had no intention of introducing industrial conscription. He appealed, however, that every assistance should be rendered by the Labour Movement to the National Service Department, which was seeking by the enlistment of the voluntary workers to meet all the essential needs of the nation in the industrial field.

In the general discussion which followed, members of the deputation put forward various suggestions regarding the administration of the Department, and the methods of propaganda by which National Service was being promoted. Afterwards the services of various representatives of the industrial side of the Movement were enlisted in the actual work of the Department.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT.

A Joint Sub-Committee of the two National Committees was appointed to consider the directions in which it was desirable that the Workmen's Compensation Act should be amended.

A special circular, setting out various aspects of the administration of the Act, including its relationship to the National Health Insurance Act, was circulated to the Societies affiliated to both national bodies, and brought forth a mass of very useful information based upon the actual experience of the Societies concerned, and in many cases collated and commented upon by their own legal advisers.

Members of the Fabian Research Department have been co-opted to the Joint Committee, and the collected data is now being examined with a view to the preparation of Memoranda suitable for use by representatives of the Parliamentary Labour Party, whenever the Select Committee may be appointed to consider the necessities of an Amending Bill, or, alternatively, it will be possible to draft an Amending Bill for the consideration of the Parliamentary Party.

During the year the Joint Sub-Committee pressed upon the Government the desirability of a Bill being introduced to increase the amount of the awards payable under the existing Act.

Consultations with representatives of the Government followed, with the result that the Workmen's Compensation (War Addition) Bill was introduced; this provided for an increase of 25 per cent, in the payments, the maximum weekly compensation being increased to 25s.

Attempts were made to secure a more satisfactory proposal, but it was indicated that the only possibility of securing legislation, was that the Bill should be an agreed measure, and that the other interests concerned were not prepared to support any further concessions. The Bill passed through both Houses of Parliament, and its provisions remain inforce for the period of the war and six months afterwards.

APPEAL TO USAFFILLATED To Line Union.

The two National Committees are greated in the control of all Trade Unions which were only amiliated to the control of the Party as well as to the control of the Marrier of the control o

It cannot be said that the appeal has not act any response up to the present, although it may be used that a solution ballots under the Trade Least of that any new affiliated to the Party, presupe the main table to the National Federation of Women Worken. Other hallots at a solution taken, and it is hoped that before the combine of the solution that will arise with the combine of Federation that will arise with the combine of Federation that will arise with the combine of Federation that the place inside the Congress and the Party and a reside the party of the wield the fullest possible force in industry and patient.

JOINT OFFICES

The steadily increasing work of the Head Oracs of the Party, wheth has been accentuated by the reorganization proposals now submitted to the Annual Conference, has rendered it necessary for the Exemplys to seek new and larger offices. This proposal, too, has been the subject of consultation with the Parliementary Committee of the Trades Union Congress, and in view of the proposed extremism of activity on their part. more particularly their decision to set up an Information and Browns Department for the service of the industrial side of the Movement, better Committees were ununimous in agreeing that the interests of the Movement demanded that premises large enough for the accommodation of both Committees and their staffs should now be weight. Court difficulty. however, has been expenenced in securing and offices within the same distance of Westminster. It is confidently antiquated because the before many months are over, some arrangement will be the transfer to the state of both the industrial and political activities of the Movement will be directed from one Central Office, pending the successful accomplishment of the scheme to erect the Memorial of Proches and Proches been submitted to the Societies affiliated to test bodies and which is to be the subject of decisions by a special June Conference and additional to the subject of decisions by a special June Conference and the subject of decisions by a special June Conference and the subject of decisions by a special June Conference and the subject of decisions by a special June Conference and the subject of decisions by a special June Conference and the subject of decisions by a special June Conference and the subject of decisions by a special June Conference and the subject of decisions by a special June Conference and the subject of decisions by a special June Conference and the subject of decisions by a special June Conference and the subject of decisions are subject of decisions and the subject of decisions and decisions and decisions and decisions and decisions are subject of decisions and decisi prior to the Party's Annual Conference at Notting land

It is also hoped that the decision of the Trade Union Congress to institute industrial research work will lead to some form of congressions with the Party's Information Barwau, and possible the Public Research Department

THE JOINT BOARD.

The view of the Party I recurive required to the last being the month, no very useful purpose what is read by the last being the present line. The Parlian stary the last being the present Constitution of the last being to abolish it without the express sinct at the last last line in the meantime the Joint Board has continued its with a last last last last line.

tive has submitted to it for consideration, applications for re-affiliation to the Party, which have been received from the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative and Commercial Employees and the Municipal Employees Association, together with a renewed application for affiliation from the British Scafarers' Union. Consideration of the two former applications was deferred pending the discussions on methods of Trade Union organisation, which took place at the Trades Union Congress, as it was assumed that the decisions then arrived at in respect to the controversy between the National Union of Railwaymen and the Craft Unions with members engaged in the railway service, and between the Miners' Federation of Great Britain and the Craft Unions catering for members engaged in mining, would afford some definite guidance as to the views of the Movement as a whole on this vexed but highly important question.

Unfortunately, it was apparent from the Congress discussions that opinion was fairly evenly divided, and that any decisions registered by a narrow majority, either on one side or the other, so far from affording my effective guidance, would, on the contrary, tend towards dissension and possibly a serious division of the forces at a time when complete unity was never more essential.

The general view of the Executive is that serious dangers are likely to arise in the electoral sphere, if differences of opinion on Trade Union structure between competing organisations are allowed to delay the achievement of political solidarity, but they have remitted these matters to the considered judgment of representatives of both sides of the Movement, and regret that it is impossible to report definitely upon any one of the applications at the forthcoming Conference.

LABOUR MAGISTRATES.

Communications continue to be received at the Head Office asking for the Party's assistance in the appointment of Labour Magistrates. Early in the year the Lancashire members of the Executive Committee and the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress were received as a deputation by the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (Sir Frederick Cawley, M.P.). A very full and useful discussion took place upon the general position of the magisterial benches throughout Lancashire and undertakings were given that arrangements would be made for Labour members to be appointed to all the various Advisory Committees under the Chancellor's jurisdiction, and that whenever new appointments to the Bench were under consideration the claims of Labour would be duly considered.

Considerable correspondence has passed between the Head Office and the office of the Lord Chancellor respecting appointments to the English and Welsh County and Borough Benches. Without doubt many new appointments of Labour men have been made, but it cannot yet be said that working class opinion is at all adequately represented on the Magisterial Benches or on the Advisory Committees responsible for proposing appointments. The Head Office has followed the general rule of declining to recommend the claims of individuals, but have steadily pressed upon the authorities the importance of consulting the desires of the organised Labour Movement in the respective localities.

TRAINS UNION CONCERNS

Mr. Arthur Henderson attended the Blackpool Traces Union Congrue as Fraternal Delegate from the Party, and his report is appended.

Acting on the instructions of the Executive I attended the Trade-Union Congress at Blackpool, and in presenting the frahemal gravitings of the Labour Party said the pleasure of being the medium of renewploc the greetings of the Labour Party was enhanced by the magnificent reception they gave me, "There have been many predictions regard to the decisions of this Congress," I -continued. "predictions as to the effect that some of your decisions might have upon the Labour Party, but more particularly the effect they would have upon that discredited politician who is arting as the secretary of the Labour Party. It has occurred on this occasion, as is his inversed on many previous occasions, that those people who unduling in these pridictions have not yet learnt to understand the particles; of this great Labour movement. I would like to make this use observation of half the charges suggested against me by a section of the Press had been true, I would not have received, and I certainly the consideration you have repeatedly shown in me during the past less days. It had been to the impoverishment of international politics that the Congress had not taken a larger share in that work in days good by. I hold the opinion that if the international nervousest had here properly organised, not merely on the part of those who might have ideals, but who might be small in number, but by those who had the increase were power that the Congress represented, it was just possible that we might have averted the most calamitous and dissistrons war tile would have ever known."

I welcomed the intimation that they were at the property of the state of the state

"And who would dispute the essential med of each a less " asked, "especially when we remember the bitter experiences through which we have gone in the past three years. If we had such a force it would be the linest expression of the league of aircom that such be imagined, because it would be a league of the emission peoples throughout the whole civilised world. I do not much although possibly some advantage will be taken of the authority that the indispensable necessity to this desirable condition of affairs is the destruction—the complete destruction—if aboute government, with its Kaisers and its Tears, to be replaced by a less democraty. Is it too much to say that the great world such as the it such than the tremendous sacrifice in blood, treasure, and effort, cus may be faully successful-I emphasise the words analy successful, for wase people mistake a military victory for final and complete sistoria-can only lefinally successful when autocratic government has been completely and for ever destroyed. Though the decision may not connected mell to all of you, this is the great reason why I would rather count with the German minority before peace than I would with the reprosentatives of

an autocratic, discredited government when a military victory has been secured. I do not challenge one word of the magnificent speech made by the leader of the American delegation on what he said with regard to some of the German Socialists, but I think we ought to be fair to our cannades, and we ought to be especially fair to a minority, and more particularly to a minority that has had to labour, because of its conscience as the German Socialist minority has nobly striven to do, during the past three years. Take the position of Liebknecht, Bernstein, and Haase, and that small group who have stood together in spite of the militarism of their nation and have condemned the crimes of their Government and have done what little they could to thwart the base designs of their Government. However much we may deplore the attitude of the Majority, let us give honour where honour is due."

Calling attention to the position of the Representation of the People Fall, I expressed the opinion that its passage would be a triumph for erganised labour, who had fought so long for the recognition of the rights of citizenship for their women folk. I had seen it stated in an article in a prominent London newspaper that a solution of the Second Chamber should be found before that Bill became law. That meant that the rights of nearly eight millions of people had to be withheld until a solution for the Second Chamber problem had been found. I hoped none of them would be prepared to accept what was a most sinister scheme. It was absolutely essential that the Bill should as speedily as possible be placed upon the Statute Book. It was the least that ought to be done in a cognition of the magnificent efforts that the working classes had made, and it was for the Congress and the Labour Party to see that they at hast got that reward. If they got it the future would be theirs, and I believe, as much as I ever believed anything in my life, that if they resolutely and courageously tackled the problems of the future there were multitudes who had never been in the ranks of labour who were prepared to join hands with them, believing that, thoroughly united and organised, they would be the greatest bulwark for the peace of the world that had ever been created.

ARTHUR HENDERSON.

RELATIONS WITH THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT.

It will be within the knowledge of all supporters of the Party that, largely as the result of the attitude of the respective Governments towards the Co-operative Movement, particularly in regard to the taxation of co-operative dividends and the neglect of the assistance proffered by the Movement in dealing with the National Food Supply together with unfair treatment of the staffs of Distributive Societies under the Military Service Acts, a very representative Emergency Conference of the whole Movement was held in London on October 16th and 17th. In addition to passing a series of important and vigorously-worded resolutions on the above subjects, the Conference also decided with practical unanimity ur favour of the Co-operative Movement taking up direct political activity in the electoral field. Reference need only be made to the overwhelming manner in which such proposals have been repeatedly defeated by Co-operative Congresses in the past to realise the remarkable change that has taken place in all sections of the Co-operative Movement. In severaldistricts where local Co-operative Societies had been more fully alive to the importance of political action, negotiations had already taken place. letween such Societies and local Labour organisations.

At the first joint meeting of the Perhamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress and the Party Executive, solvenment to this decision by the National Co-operative Movement, it was agreed that the new Political Committee of the Co-operation Movement should be in the to coaler with the two National Labour bearing in the territories to possibilities of joint action and, so lar as present chemicalance applislow, the promoting of a united and en-ordinated policy both unisually and locally. The first joint receiting was hold in London on January 90. when a joint Suli-Committee was appointed to consider the problems of joint activities and report to a further market

The opportunity was also usued to some a point marrieds, settlement the policy energiated by Provident Wilson in his certable questle on War Alms delivered on January 8th. This was signed by the three Secretaries on behalf of their respective our trinsations and received wide affection in the press

MEMBERSHIP

The following Table indicates the fluctuations in the Party was epship since its formation in 1900 -

| Trade Union Land Labour Parity States Section Sections | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|------|--------|------------|------|------|-----|---|-----------|------------|
| | | No | 7 Bill | Management | mar. | No. | 201 | 7 | A S Parks | "THE. |
| 119(8)-1 | | 81 | | \$15,079 | | 3 | | - | 22.941 | 375.231 |
| 1901 2 | | 10.4 | | 650,600 | | 21 | | | 23,861 | 8111,3121 |
| 1902-3 | | 127 | | 847,215 | | | | - | 13,850 | 1653, 1721 |
| 1903.4 | | 165 | | 954,055 | | 1.0 | | 1 | 15,775 | 240,600 |
| 1904-5 | | 1.5 | | 850,270 | | -23 | | - | 1KTH | 2000,1000 |
| 1905-6 | | 11.5 | | 1014,434 | | 115 | | 2 | 38,284 | 221,290 |
| E908.7 | | 176 | | 975.180 | | 8.3 | | | 30,881 | 209.321 |
| 1007 | | 151 | | LOAD OTS | | 92 | | | 22,297 | V. STELANS |
| 100- | | 174 | | 1,111,033 | | 133 | | | 27,410 | 333000 |
| 1909 | | 172 | | 1,150,018 | | 185 | | | 20,987 | 1,496,309 |
| 1910 | | 151 | | 1,374,470 | | 145 | | - | 91,971 | Table line |
| 1911 | | 1.61 | | 1,50),783 | | 1.67 | | - | 31,404 | 1,329,690 |
| 1912 | | 130 | - | 1,858,178 | | 140 | | | 910291 | 1,403,424 |
| 1913 | | | | * | | 106 | | | 15.304 | 4 |
| 1914 | | 101 | | 1,672,381 | | 129 | | - | 35.200 | CHERIAL |
| 1916 | | 111 | | B.653,785 | | 177 | | 1 | 33,436 | XXXXXX |
| 1916 | 0.0 | 119 | | 2,170,782 | | 198 | | 2 | 62,190 | 2,210,798 |
| 1917 | | 123 | | 2,418,383 | | 200 | | | STIER | 3,460,331 |

In 1916, 119 Trades Councils and 80 Local Labour Parties were affiliated. At the present nument there are 140 Trades Creetesls and 93 Local Labour Parties associated with the Party.

The British Socialist Party with a member-day of 10 (80), the LLP with 35,000, and the Fabian Society with 2,140, theether with the Wasses a Labour League and the Tunbridge Wells Comparative besists, have continued their membership

CANDIDATES

A number of additions have been made to the Party a Last of Comstiftnences and Candidates since the Manhates Conference and Cofollowing is the complete List, the Societies indicated being accepted the necessary financial guarantees :-

AVESHIRE SOUTH - I SHEN FOR S SO AREA and TATE S CAR! If se Pederation of Great Butain

BERMONDSEY - DR. ALFRED SALIES [P. 5 Stocks Hood Born by London, S.B. (I.L.P.)

†Owing to the operate of the order of June 2 June 12 was to the first term of the statistics for 1915

^{*}Tide offums includes the section of the transfer of the trans

BIRMINGHAM. EAST - COUNCILLOR GEORGE SHANN, Chellowdene, Linton Road, Bournville. (Birmingham L.R.C.)

DIRMINGHAM, WEST. - COUNCILLOR J. W. KNEESHAW, 285, Shenstone Road, Birmingham. (II. P.)

BISHOP AUCKLAND - COUNCILLOR BEN SPOOR, 4, Westfield Road, Bishop Aucklan l. (I.L.P.)

BRIDGETON - JAMES MANTON, M.A., 61, Cathcart Road, Glasgow. (I.L.P.)

PRISTOL EAST.—COUNCILLOR W. H. AYLES, The Kingsley Hall, Old Market Street, Bristol. (I.L.P.)

CHESTER 1 B-STREET - I. GILLHAND, Birtley, co. Durham. (Miners' Federation of Great Britain.

CLEVELAND .- HARRY DACK, 17, Ruby Street, Saltburn-by-the-Sea. Federation of Great Britain.)

COVENERY .- R. C. WALLHEAD, 21, East Avenue, Garden Village. Burnage. Manchester. (I.L.P.)

DURHAM, N.W.—G. H. STUART BUNNING, Parliament Mansions, Victoria Street, London, S.W. (Postmen's Federation)

Eccles.—J. H. Hupson, M.A., 5. Laburnum Avenue, Folly Lane, Swinton, Manchester. (I.L.P.)

GLAMORGAN, EAST.—A. ONIONS, J.P., Miners' Agent, Tredegar, Mon. (Miners' Federation of Great Britain.)

GLAMORGAN, MID.—VERNON HARTSHORN, Miners' Office, Maesteg, Glam. (Miners' Federation Great Britain.)

GOVAN .- NEIL McLEAN, 181, St. Andrew's Road, Pollockshields, Glasgow. (ILI)

HALLAMSHURE .-- ALDERMAN T. W. GRUNDY, 15, Clifton Bank, Rotherham (Miners' Federation of Great Britain.)

Hanley.—Alderman Harper Parker, 2, Hill Street, Sneyd Green, Hanley (National Amalgamated Union of Enginemen, Firemen, Mechanics, etc.)

HOLMFIRTH .- W. LUNN, Carlton Lane, Rothwell, Leeds. (Miners' Federation of Great Britain.)

CO. Durham. (Miners' Federation of Great Britain.) HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING .-

LANARK, N.E.- J. ROBERTSON, Miners' Office, Hamilton, Scotland. (Miners' Federation of Great Britain.)

LEIGH.—T. GREENALL, J.P., 94, Leigh Road, Boothstown, Manchester (Miners' Federation of Great Britain.)

LEITH. J. N. Bell, J.P., 4, Higham Place, Newcastle-on-Tyne. (National Amalgamated Union of Labour.)

MANSFIELD. - WILLIAM CARTER, 119, Foxall Road, Sherwood Rise, Nottingham. (Miners' Fdderation of Great Britain.)

MONMOUTH, N.—Tom GRIFFITHS, 7, Queen Street, Neath. (Steel Smelters, Mil', Iron, Tinplate, and Kindred Trades Association.)

MORFETH.—J. CAIRNS, Burt Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne. (Miners' Federation

of Great Britain.)
OLDHAM.—W. C. ROBINSON, J.P., Derby Chambers, 6, Fleet Street, Bury.
(United Textile Factory Workers' Association.)

POPLAR.-GEORGE LANSBURY, 39, Bow Road, Bow, London, E. (Poplar L.R.C)

PRESTON.—Tom Shaw, J.P., Weavers' Office, Colne, Lancs. (United Textile Factory Workers' Association.) ROTHERHAM. - JAMES WALKER, 49, Jamaica Street, Glasgow. (British Steel

Smelters' Association.) SHETTLESTON -COUNCILLOR JOHN WHEATLEY, "Avoca," Hillview, Shettleston.

Glasgow. (I.L.P.) SMETHWICK .- J. E. DAVISON, 32, Cottingham St., Attercliffe, Sheffield

(Friendly Society of Ironfounders.) ST. HELENS - COUNCILLOR JAMES SEXTON, J.P., 17, Norton Street, Liverpoo

(National Union of Dock Labourers.) Sowerer - J. W. Ogden, 2. Grosvenor Street, Heywood, Lancs. (United Textile Factory Workers' Association.)

SWANSEA - COUNCILLOR DAVID WILLIAMS 25, Windmill Terrace, St. Thomas. Swansea (IL.P.)

WELLINGBOROUGH. -- COUNCILLOR W. R. SMITH, J P., Belle View, St. Clement's Hill, Norwich. (National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives.)

WEST DERBY (LIVERPOOL)-REV. H. DUNNICO, 74, Wellesley Road, Ilford. (I.L.P.)

WOLVERHAMPTON, WEST.-A. G. WALKDEN, 337. Gray's Inn Road, London W.C. (Railway Clerks' Association.)

The following Candidates have required the stocked only recent at the Party Executive and are available for selection by constituencies The various organisations indicated have named financial prepent oility for their candidatures provided that unds must with their approval and receive the official sanction of the Party :-

W. H. CARR, J.P., Delamore Street, Ashino-under-Lyan. Distail. Adoptistion of Card and Disvessy Dome Operations.).

P. JANSSON, J.P., 503, Ecouply Board, Cardill. Obligonometers and Shrpwrigtor Association is

J. Windows, J.P., 24, Crumwell Kout, Swamer, W. Peon, Websil Buildings, Alexandra Brad, Swamer, Dock, Whart, Europade, and General Workers Door.

F. Ricciscou, 161, Mice Bind, Leicester
Bucaum, J.P., 13, Eightmonth Avenue, New Wortny, Lends,
(Bloot and Shoe Operations' Union.)

W. S. SANDERS, CLL Boundaries Bond, Ballians, London, S.W. Lt. (Fablas Society.)

HART GORDEN, J.P., 31, Good Prescit Street, London, S. L. |Kensi, Society of Watermen, Lightermen, and Empresses

ALTERN DEPOS, Moorield Terror, Hollagewith, Laure Bend, Wesser's Office, Bartlers Place, Officer [United Textile Factory Workers' Association.]

ALBERT RELIABOY, RS, FOR Blesst, Edgely, Blockpark, PROMES LOWIN, Unity House, Earthu Road, London, M.W. I. [Natural Cries of Railwayson.]

A. GOIDON CUNTRON, 95, Brutswick Street, Ashwitz Crees, Municipality, ALTERN GOODS, I. Laurel Grove, Park Hoad, Stall. [Automoted Society of Carpenters and Johnson]

less Hos. J.P. Lifton Please, Islandon End. Research on Type Convention form Hanne, 73 Georges Start, Newsystem Pro-Convention J. T. Hermann, 246 Barbing P. J. Planter, Landon E. L. Convention C. J. Rown 24 M. James Terras, Prop. Math. on Type Cornellion Air. Smoot, 43, Prisseorth Street, Attackle, Parist. Witness Mackie, 600, Dumbarton Bland, Parist. (Tangella) (finder Makers and Iron and Steri Stip Builders)

Ct. June 44 Settem Terrace Louis (Productial Association Arests.)

DAVID ADAMS 18 Sanderson Stad. Journal Newspills on Type JOSEFR Brown, 56 Stadley Grove, Longuishe, Manufacture. I. T. Bassavais, S. Lymburst Kind, Posthan, Luchus, S.E. St. IAMES POTTE, 41, Amidell Road, Fockham, Luchus, S.E. 18. Dorwey, 13, Sorley Street, Sunderland

D. W. HURBAND, 21. Glemont Read, Cabrill Town Pages L. E. Lo.
R. E. Jones, 242. Pelliume Road, Marie Commission, C. Jones, 40. Somerset Road, Fronts, Livery, W. T. Kritt, 68. Denmin East, Verbian Land. E. Li

KELLY, 68, Denman Hoad, Pechluse, London & E. 11.

Tom PROCTED A Carbeel Road, Torpount, Cornwall, ABTRUR TAYLOR 32 Salmont Grown, Manuar Tonner Venesa 301 Jaylah Road London all 12 [Amalgamated Society of Engineers]

A. ALEXANDER, 15. Reypold's Close, 18. more at Warr, N.W. s. COUNCILLOR A. PARTON, 4d. Scientific Bland Bankell, I. G. Burrase, 19. Clarectus Scient, Visition, S.W. 1. GROBER DERK, 21, Kent Street, Gelmaby

R. C. Fancisco, 26, Variety Book Layers, E. M.

COUNTRAIN T. LEWIS, 22, 54. Mary Street, Southampton.

ON Michesola Delices, Published Land, Principles Classes Constituted I. W. Swift, Back Street, Francis Constituted I. W. Swift, Back Street, Briefly Back, 25, Flacker Boad North, Barbly, Backer-Birk

PESSE To ANN. Review Committee Book Quality, Haller William Warriow, 16, Bridge Spirit, Wreste Table (British Socialist Party)

ROBERT MORLEY 13, Milton Terrace, Hahrax. (Workers' Union.)

J. Gilbert Dale, F.G.S., 68, Holland Park, London, W. (Prison Officers' Association.)

DAVID RICHARDS, 33, Virginia Street, Southport (General Union of Carpenters and Joiners.)

J. Bromley, 8, Park Square, Leeds.
(Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen)

ROBERT WALIAMS, 220. Blackfriars Road, London, S.E. 1. (National Amalgamated Labourers' Union.)

SAMUEL FISHER, 39, Mount Stuart Square, Cardiff J. T. CLATWORINY, 39, Mount Stuart Square, Cardiff (Cardiff, Penarth, and Barry Coal Trimmers and Tippers.)

Jos. COTTER, 14-16, Central Buildings, North John Street, Liverpool. (National Union of Ships' Stewards, Cooks, Butchers and Bakers.)

G. A. ISAACS, 26, Blackfriars Road, London, S.E. 1. (National Society of Operative Printers and Assistants.)

CLIFFORD ALLEN, 38, Albert Palace Mansions, Battersea, S.W. 11.
C. G. Ammon, 121, Alscot Road, Bermondsey, S.E. 1
Alderman George Banton, "Stapleford," Westfield Road, Leicester
GEO. Benson, Work Centre, Wakefield.
H. N. Brallsford, Harmer Green, Welwyn, Herts.
H. Brockhouse, Lawnside, West Bromwich.
A. Fenner Brockway, 20, Bristol Avenue, Wallasey, Cheshire.
Harry Dubery, 40, Lavenham Road, Wandsworth, S.W. 18.
J. Bruce Glasier, 37, Windsor Road, Levenshulme, Manchester
Councillor Morgan Jones, Bargoed.
David Kirkwood, 3, St. Mark Street, Shettlestone, Glasgow.
B. N. Langdon-Davies, 33, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, W.C. 2
William Leach, 16, Haslingden Drive, Bradford.
Councillor J. W. Murby, 6, Aylestone Street, Leicester.
Councillor Tom Myers, Brewery Lane, Thornhill Lees, Dewsbury,
J. H. Palin, 121, Lower Rushton Road, Bradford.
T. Richardson, M.P., Tyneholme, Thyra Grove, North Finchley N. 12
Ben Riley, J.P., 28, Westfield Avenue, Oakes, Huddersfield.
John Scurr, 153, Bow Road, Bow, E. 3
Tom Snowden, C.C., Rosemont, Branham Road, Bingley.
Alderman Ben Turner, 5, Talbot Street, Batley.
Councillor Egerton P. Wake, 12, Victoria Avenue, Barrow-in-Furness
T. Russell Williams, Kildwick, Keighley.
Councillor H. E. Witard, J.P., "Planet House," St. Martin's Lane,
Norwich. (Independent Labour Party.)

FINANCE.

The statement of accounts for 1917 is given on later pages. The balance at the beginning of the year was £6,870 3s. 8d.; the total income from Affiliation Fees was £10,905 11s. 7d.; literature sales total £361 7s. 1d.; the total income for the year, including £18,000 in Treasury Bills, totals £30,263 15s. 9d. It was reported to the Manchester Conference that £14,000 had been invested in Treasury Bills; of these £10,000 were converted into £10,500 War Loan Stock, and the balance with a further £5,000 taken from the Bank Deposit Account was reinvested in Treasury Bills; £2,000 maturing in three months; £2,000 in six months, and £5,000 in twelve months; of these the former £4,000 have now matured.

It will be noted that the Executive and Sub-Committee expenses have considerably increased; the international matters arising during the year having occasioned almost twice the normal number of meetings. Salaries have also increased considerably, further increases having been

given to some members of the staff, and increased our location to all. The development of the Party's activities during the latter half of the year has also demanded an increased derival staff.

Some amounting to 1000 have been board to the Chyde December Commerce. A detailed and address account of the Committee appropriate will be reported later. Alterether, the total expenditure has the very amounts to 19,440 de 2d, or, with the investment is Tomorr Bills and War Loan Stock (28,117 10s, 9d; the total balance at the Bank at the end of the year being 19,007 11s, 4d. The greater parties of the §5.287 11s, 4d, reported in the manner assembly as manner to the following the committee of the following the following the committee of the following the foll

NATIONAL AGENT'S REPORT

ORGANIZATION —With the close of the year language to produce the gratifying fact that at no time in our previous history has the study of the Party been so manifest. Requests for advice and state and all parts of the country continue to be received, and during the part remonths numerous local Conference have been seen and through and many others are to follow. Local Labour Parts are languaged in the proposals for individual membership after a second of the proposals for individual membership and the proposals for individual member

The Representation of the Report of the Speaker's Committee embedding very valuable proposals for Franchise and Representation Rolling by Executive arranged a Sational Conference and the joint appearant the Trades Union Compress and the Party. This important patients, is referred to in another past of the Executive's report and, I may add the Committee's proposals provided much a tisky angust as a second organisations which was greatly increased upon the bringing of the Representation of the People." Bill in the Home of Committee and the measure has been closely followed through its requestions of the People and the Home of Committee and the measure has been closely followed through its requestions.

The report of the Boundary Commission very largely actuated our work at the Head Office, not only in the form of compositions, but by the most careful consideration of alternative product this opportunity of a knowledges the very finish composition of the general result of the detailed and we are all glad that the four delayed reliabilities and the creation of new areas bats full to be a substitute of the defined, many handicaps being removed, and with commission the same tacilities for contests our democratic forces all when the same tacilities for contests our democratic forces all when the same tacilities for contests our democratic forces all when the same tacilities for contests our democratic forces all when the same tacilities for contests our democratic forces all when the same tacilities for contests our democratic forces all when the same tacilities for contests our democratic forces all when the same tacilities for contests our democratic forces all when the same tacilities for contests our democratic forces all when the same tacilities for contests our democratic forces all when the same tacilities for contests our democratic forces all when the same tacilities for contests our democratic forces all when the same tacilities for contests our democratic forces all when the same tacilities for contests our democratic forces all when the same tacilities for contests our democratic forces and with contests our democratic forces and with contests our democratic forces and when the same tacilities are the same tacilities and the same tacilities and the same tacilities are the same t

Party Agents bern increased by the appointment of Mr. II Lees L.P., for Hanley, Mr. L. Andrews for Portygood division and Mr. W. Barnes for Norwich Additional appointments are justice. Party Organisers.—Valuable work has been accomplished during the year by Messrs. S. Higenbottam and W. Holmes, and from the reports received at Head Office their visits in the constituencies concerned have been of the greatest assistance and appreciated. Since our last Conference the following districts have been visited:—

Mansfield Division. Bury St. Edmunds. York. Cleveland Division. North Bucks. (2) Edmonton (2). Barking. Stourbridge. Wednesbury. West Bromwich. Smithwick. Kidderminster. Walsall. Bristol. Worcester. Camborne Division. St. Ives Division. Excter. Forest of Dean. Tiverton Division. Swindon. Westbury Div. (Wilts). Enfield Division. Guildford. Aldershot Division. Southwark Div. Dartford. Luton Division. Aberdeen. Glasgow (2) Newcastle. Durham. Plymouth (2). Cardiff. Manchester. Oldham. Bolton. Norwich. Mansfield. Hanley. Wellingborough. Newton. Accrington. Doncaster Division. Attercliffe. Letchworth. Hitchin. Northampton. Brightside. St. Pancras. Birkenhead. Gateshead. Houghton-le-Spring. Crewe. Coalville. Hinckley. Broxtowe. Tamworth. Nottingham. Grimsby. Hull. Rotherham. Leeds. Darlington. Bishop Auckland. Seaham Division Spennymoor. Jarrow. Sunderland. South Shields. West Hartlepool.

West Hartlepool. Rushcliffe. Fulham.
Nuneaton. Romford. Cambridge.
East Ham.

In many other directions the organisation staff has endeavoured to render the very best assistance to the Party and to all our local organisations.

ARTHUR PETERS.

SCOTTISH ADVISORY COUNCIL.

The Scottish Advisory Council held its third Conference in Glasgow on Saturday, September 22nd, when Mr. Robert Smillie presided over an attendance of 114 delegates, representing 36 Trade Unions, 12 Trades Councils, 8 Local Labour Parties, and the Scottish Sections of the Women's Labour League, the Independent Labour Party and the British Socialist Party. Messrs. W. F. Purdy and Ramsay MacDonald, M.P., were appointed to represent the National Executive. Mr. Purdy, however, was prevented by illness from attending. Mr. Ramsay MacDonald reported as follows:—

"I attended the meeting of the Scottish Advisory Council on Saturday the 22nd of September, according to the instruction of the Executive. There was a very fine turn out of delegates from all the industrial districts of Scotland and representatives of all the important societies eligible to attend the Conference. The Council decided unanimously to make certain alterations in the casting of votes so as to bring its method into conformity with our own. It

also decided to charge a fee of its per datagate in future, has it drapped other proposed assemblement to its resolutation and instructed the Executive to recombine them. One of these dealt with the proling of callway lares of all delegates attending the Council meeting. I putted but how awkward this might be and how it could be critably lead to a rapidat formers noticities, and also how little either it would have in four or five years' time. The resolutions on the agenda were all doly considered and own of the delates were very thorough. The Conference gave ton a very decided impression of the bealth and eitality of the movement in bindland.

The newly elected Electrics Generalize is as hillows:-

W. Watteren, J.F. Chicago purp Descriptor and Sliperights, 83, West Expect Street, Glogow

Convenient Coaster M. W. Sed, Vin-Chalman, et, Dulley Concest.

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R. Senton, J.P. (Sermit Mile Worker, Associates, 19, Miles Steer, Larghan)

Person Winter Ploy Ashingto Dates (N. Angle Street, Glogar, J. R. Stein, J.P. (Noticeal Union of Stationymou), 12 (James Personal Assesse, Stationega)

DESCRIPT JAMES WALKED STORE STREET, CO. JAMES STREET, L. P. Brickenster, A. Rabeller Spring Relations.

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Mon Street M. Houses (Gauger Labour Party), M. Greet Western Street, Gauger.

Divines Street Chapter Stude County, 64, Brackey Street, S.S., Ghapter

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LAND HATTON, H.A., Buckwood, Revised, J. B. Harryson, W.A., Markle Cloub, Landwiczsch,

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B. Railer, J.P., Sta. Cordon Street, Chapter

The Executive Camultus fatty level in proposed anomalization with the Scottish Executive recently with regard to proposed anomalization to their Camultution. These, however, have been field in suspense pending discussions on the proposed new Constitution for the National Party at Northgalam. The Executive contemplate, however, readering further assistance to the Scottish Movement by the temperary appointment of an organiser in order that constitutionary organization through Scotland may be strengthened in preparation for the electronal numbers that contains now be long dislayed.

One of the read interesting developments of the Scatter Mercants during the year has been the setting up of a Juint Committee representative of the Scottish Co-speciality Wholesale Society; the Scottish Settles of the Co-speciality Union; the Scottish Trade Union Congruen; and the Scottish Advisory Council of the Party. In view of the proposals of the general Co-speciality Mercanent throughout the Kingdom in empoyen political activity this development in Scottisol is a notable provident and should prove of incorner anistiance in the consultation of the working class forces in the Scottish constitutions.

The Scottish Council has taken the initiative in the convening of a number of Special Conferences on the Food Supply; the development of constituency organisation; Scottish Educational Reform; and Military and Naval Pensions and Allowances.

The Report of the Council's activities, together with an account of its Annual Conference has been issued separately, copies being obtainable upon application to our Scottish office at 33a, Gordon Street, Glasgow, price 3d.; post free, 4d.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON DEPORTATION OF MUNITION WORKERS IN THE CLYDE DISTRICT.

The Report of this Committee was presented to the Executive Committee in November and is issued to affiliated Societies as a separate document.* In addition to its specific purpose, the Report will, we believe, be very useful to the large number of Trade Unionists and others who are interested in the various Regulations and special conditions under which the State-controlled Munitions Factories are conducted. It contains the full text of the Treasury Agreement which was made on March 9th, 1915, between the Government and Representatives of the various Trade Unions, and which subsequently became the basis of the Second Schedule to the Munitions of War Act, 1915. The exact text of this important Schedule is also reproduced under paragraph 13 of the Special Committee's Report. It also gives as further Appendices copies of Circulars L.2 and L.3 issued by the Ministry of Munitions to regulate the employment of women and unskilled or semi-skilled men on work hitherto restricted to skilled tradesmen

Then, under paragraph 101, a useful working arrangement made between the Superintendent of Ordnance Factories at Woolwich Arsenal and the London District Secretary of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers in February, 1916, is reproduced, and another valuable working agreement now in operation at one of the Munition Factories on the Clyde is given as Appendix No. 4. Both these documents are likely to prove helpful as a basis for similar arrangements in other large works.

The whole Report throws an interesting light upon the "Shop Steward" question which is now receiving so much attention in the Press and is a matter of such vital interest to the Trade Union Movement.

A very valuable portion of the Report is that which, under Section 17, gives the text of the Official Orders, describes the procedure adopted in connection with the arrests and deportations, and reveals the attitude of mind of the Military Authorities to whom these tasks were relegated.

To the Government (particularly to the Ministry of Labour), and to all who are concerned to ascertain causes of Labour Unrest, especially at the present time, the Committee commend this Report with its full description of the long series of incidents which led up to the strike at Parkhead Forge Works, in March, 1916, in connection with which the ten members of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers were deported without trial.

LABOUR YEAR BOOK.

It was anticipated that the Labour Year Book would be issued before the end of 1917, but in view of the compilation of certain sections of its contents having been unavoidably delayed, it was considered advisable to postpone its publication until after the Nottingham Conference, when it would be possible to include within its pages the new revised Constitution of the Party, should such be agreed to. There is

^{*}The conclusions of the Committee are contained in Appendix III.

already a wide demand for the is a miss and so that are miss. Societies will bring its claims before their members

It is gratifying to note that there is still a straily demand for the first issue, the cloth edition of which is still so sale at the reduced price of 2s. 5d. post free.

PRESS AND PUBLICITY DEPARTMENT

Towards the end of the year the Exemitive agreed to the maintained of a Press and Publishity Department for the purpose of probling an efficial channel of communication to the gracual press, and for the mapply of information more particularly to the Labour Press throughout the country. Mr. Herbert Tracey has been appointed Director, and there is every prospect of this Department betterning to at the most useful and active branches of Party work.

INFORMATION BUREAU

The Secretary of the Bureau continues the stary collection of material serviceable in propaganda and useful for the purpose of a service enquiries which reach the office. A translates of all the presented at Stockholm by the Socialist Parties of the being reaches was made during the year.

Three issues of the "Bulletin" have been issued the year, but it will appear much more frequently in the factor, and will make tacts, figures and arguments illustrating the points in Tables and the New Social Order," as well as unusually of the liquid of the Government Committees on Reconstruction as published.

WAR EMERGENCY: WORKERS NATIONAL COMMITTEE

Space will not allow of a very adequate report of the motional activities of the Workers' National Committee.

During the year it has specialized very largely at the middless of the National Food Supply, and while it is granifying to note that its proposals are being adopted by the Ministry of Food, regard can only be expressed for the unnecessary delay in designs.

On January 1st, 1917, representatives of the Committee depotant Lord Devenport, then Food Controller, and arged the adoption of a system of registration of sugar commers by the various retailers throughout the country. This system had already been adopted with conditionable success by Co-operative Societies in various districts, and the Workers' National Committee felt that if its me could be extended and because the general rule, it would serve to organise sugar distribution, so as to assure each consumer of the proportion that the national emplies would allow. At the same time it was felt that once the scheme was successfully applied to sugar, it would be a matter of little difficulty to apply in to other foodstuffs of which there was a startify. No progress was made in the matter however until some time after Lord Rhondda assumed office, when the increasing scarnity of foresign replered it measure that some such scheme should be adopted, and, as is now known, many was first distributed on this basis on January Lat, 1915, just twelve months after the suggestion was first put forward. The development of food quenes in practiselly every town and city throughout the auunity, occasioned by the shortage of butter, margarine, and other articles of diet, has led to the wider adoption of the registration of matemers.

Early in the year the Committee associated with the Women's Labour League in pressing upon the Ministry of Food the desirability of instituting Communal Kitchens for the supply of cooked food under municipal control, wherever their use was likely to lead to food economy. Unfortunately, again the Ministry allowed the proposal to become the subject of voluntary effort, and associated it with the local War Economy Committees. More recent developments have served to show the desirability of communal cooking on the lines proposed becoming much more general, and the Ministry is now seeking to encourage its extension.

Support has been given to a number of proposals, that where Municipalities were anxious to undertake the experiment, they should be allowed to inaugurate municipal milk supplies. The Bradford City Council, after examining the whole problem in its local bearing, sought powers to carry out a suitable scheme, but received no encouragement from any Government department. Subsequent events have justified their forethought, and steps are only now being taken in a direction they desire, though even now not to the fullest possible extent.

Proposals put forward by the National Committee, suggesting that priority in the supply of milk should be given to infants, young children, nursing and expectant mothers, have been adopted by the Ministry of Food with a promptness that is particularly notable.

The Committee has issued a number of leaflets dealing with the National Food Supply, which have had a wide and useful circulation. A special leaflet urging the formation of Food Vigilance Committees, and suggesting the scope of their activities has also been circulated and acted upon in many areas.

The Committee was responsible for suggesting that a National Convention should be held on the National Food Supply, and the cooperation of the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress and the Party Executive was sought and readily given. This was held in London on December 29th, when the following resolutions were unanimously endorsed:—

That this National Food Convention, representing over two million organised workers, and a quarter of all the households of Great Briatin:—

- (a) Protests against the suffering that is now being unnecessarily inflicted on the mass of the urban consumers, and especially upon the women, by the prolonged delay of the Government in organising an equitable system of distribution of the supplies of food;
- (b) Demands that the present unfair distribution of supplies as between rich and poor should be promptly brought to an end, and that, as regards necessaries of life of which at any time there is not enough to go round, there must be equal sharing among all families without distinction of wealth or class;
- (c) Urges upon the Food Controller that the fundamental importance of Compulsory Rationing lies in assuring to every person, rich and poor, his proper proportion week by week of whatever is available, and for this reason it is essential that the basis of any system should be that of Registered Orders, filed by Registered Retailers, supplied by Registered Wholesalers and guaranteed by the Food Controller that the whole supply available will be distributed each week in exact proportion to the Registered Orders; that the result of Compulsory Rationing in preventing selfish rich persons from consuming more than their share, though important,

is second in inoportance to the grarantee to every ment have get share; that for this reason it is desirable that the grain of pulsory Rationing on the basis of Registered Colors should be at once applied not to a few things only, but the analysis of the at possible; that it would be quite possible to include in the Colors and Rationing scheme not only sugar, beat and the ment and meet and bacon, but the such things as and taping and other imported oreal substitutes; turned reason that, there is butter, and margarine; ten, colors and margarine is the margarine and margarine is the colors and margarine is the colors and margarine.

(d) Preses in particular for the organized apply of mile in all districts to (1) muraling mothers and infants; (2) delibers at achieve not as a measure of Poor Relief confined to a sensitive children but as one of Public Health, available for all applicants; such a Fully Milk Supply to be made obligatory on all Local Health Authorities, and to be secured absolute priority of apply from all milk pro-language.

That the Convention, is view of the prospects of increasing shortage:-

- (a) Calls upon the Food Controller to insist, regardless of any opposition by other Government Departments on the lamouter action necessary to secure, not only in some terms, but in all the effective enforcement of price orders and an efficient service of first distribution (including milk).
- (b) Suggests that it is not enough to get Food Central Committees appointed, with functions not clearly explained, powers only imperfectly understood, and statis inexperienced and inadequate and that the Food Controller must see to it that any Local Committees on which he now relies are everywhere passed of the local shopkeepers by whom they are at present often dominated, populy representative of the committees, stimulated to all accountry action, and adequately instructed as to their powers and dottes.
- (c) Warns the Government very gravely that, whilst the people will make any sacrifice that the country's real needs demand, they will judge the Ministry and the present gravely discuss by the actual results; and that the organised workmen will not takely endure either government inefficiency in its primary function of assuring the Food Supply, still less any favour to private food-lealers or to the well-to-do classes.

Another subject in which the Committee has been very active in the administration of the Rent and Mortgage Interest (Was Restriction) Act. Local Labour organisations in various parts of the country have been useful in advising working class temants as to their eights under this Act, and in a number of cases have co-operated in legal actions taken by or against landlords. The Birmingham Trades Council made themselves responsible for defending a test case (Sharpe Bens, v. Chard, first in the County Court, where judgment was given for the tenant; then is the Divisional Court, where the judgment was upackl; and subsequently in the Court of Appeal, where a vendict was given for the landlord. The point at issue was the right of a truant to deduct excess rent, paid at the illegal demand of the landlord, subsequent to November 28th, 1913, when the Act was first posted. The Committee made itself map made for assisting the Birmingham Trades Council to most the costs involved in defending the case in the Appeal Court. When the weeklet ment against the tenant the Committee considered whether it was desirable to appeal to the House of Lords, but, by a fortunate circumstance, the

Courts (Emergency Powers) Bill was before Parliament at the time, and afforded facilities for amending the Rent Restriction Act. The Parliamentary Party was consulted, and amendments covering the point at issue were introduced, and although the Government in the House of Commons was averse to accepting them, it had to give way under pressure from private Members. Unfortunately, the House of Lords, true to its traditions, weakened the Labour proposals, and restricted the right of recovery to a period of six months. There is no doubt, however, as to the immense benefit that this amendment has proved to thousands of working class tenants. In the Birmingham area alone it was found that the rent of over 60,000 working class houses, out of a total of 150,000, had been illegally increased, and it has been reported to the Committee that in one working class town, sums approximate to £25,000 have been recovered on behalf of tenants.

A leaflet entitled "Profiteers and their Plunder" has also been circulated, and the record it gives of the huge profits accruing to many firms despite the Excess Profits Tax, and its demand for the setting up of a Royal Commission to enquire into War-Time Profiteering has been generally supported.

The proposal of the recent Select Committee on War Finance, that an enquiry should be held into the cost of living during the War and what has been termed the "Vicious Circle," occasioned by increased wages following the increased cost of living, has been the subject of representations from the Committee to the Prime Minister that should such enquiry be held the terms of reference should be extended so as to include a general enquiry into "Profiteering."

Definite proposals respecting the "Conscription of Riches" have been widely circulated on behalf of the Committee, and in conjunction with the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress, the Party Executive, and the Executive of the Miners' Federation, were made the subject of representations to the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Bonar Law). The reply given by Mr. Bonar Law, in which he indicated that while it was not desirable to institute such stringent financial measures during the War, their adoption after the War might possibly become the subject of practical politics, has led to considerable comment and discussion in the general press, and some agitation in While the proposal met with little but hostile criticism financial circles. when first propounded, more mature deliberation is leading many critics to the opinion that a general levy on capital with the object of liquidating a considerable proportion of the accumulated war debt would be preferable from many points of view, both national and financial, to increasingly heavy taxation inflicted over a long period of years.

The Committee has periodically issued its Memorandum showing the increased cost of living in large towns during the War, as measured by the Board of Trade Standard Working Class Budget. This shows that the cost of one week's food for a typical family which was 22s. 6d. in 1904, and had risen to 25s. in July, 1914, reached its highest level of 52s. 3d. in July and September, and again in December, 1917—an increase of 109 per cent. during the War period. The purchasing power of a sovereign spent on food has thus been reduced during the same period to 9s. 6d.

During the year the Co-operative Movement withdrew from the Committee, but arrangements have now been made for representation to be resumed.

NORWICH BYF-ELL TICK

On the appointment of the Rt. How G. H. Rollett, M.P. at Minners of Labour, if became necessary that he should other himself for re-election. The position at Norwich was considered by the National Executive at its meeting on August 22nd, and in view of the decision of the Special Conference on August 21st, when a resolution demanding the authorized of the Labour Members from the Government was withdrawn, the I xocutive was all opinion that it had no alternative but to continue the approval which had been given to Mr. Roberts' candidature at previous elections. The Executive also agreed to the request of Mr. Roberts that his election should be conducted by Mr. Arthur Peters, the Nazional Agent. When these decisions were reached, the Exceptive had no information before it respecting the attitude of the Trades Council to Mr. Roberts nor with regard to any contemplained new candidature; the repudiation of Mr. Roberts by the Trudes Council being subsequent to the meeting of the National Executive and to the National Agent beginning the arrangements for the election. The Trades Control made application to the Head Office to provide a new Cambillate, but in view of Mr. Roberts being the Candidate of an affiliated Trade Union at was not in order for the Office to assist with an opposition Candidate.

A circular was issued by the Norwich Trades Council protesting against the policy of the National Executive and suggesting that the course adopted by the Executive was in direct violation of the Party Constitution.

When the Executive had an operation; if use and the circumstance a Sub-Committee was appointed to investigate the charges made and if possible to find a result of the between the Local Party and the siting Member. The interviewed representatives of the Normal Trade Committee was admitted that the action taken by the Committee was possible to the investigation by the Sub-Committee was possible to the National Executive at its meeting on January 19th and analysis the adopt was to refer the dispute to a referred to the last of the members of the branches of the affiliated organization in Normal, and the National Executive invites the Combiners to redoce its action adopting this recommendation.

BRITISH WORKERS LEAGUE

In a letter dated December 7th, the Exception of Great Britain brought to the sense of the National Exercise the action of the British Workers I age with result in the motion of Parhamentary candidature and the set that we have by the League of the names of ortizin Labour Members and the set that amount of Parhamentary candidates at the first Exercise the constituencies held by the Labour Party see 1996 In Exercise decided to communicate with all the Labour Party see 1996 In Exercise the League except the Miners when the Exercise 1996 Pederation Executive was dealing with. As the result of the Pederation Executive was dealing with As the result of the British Workers Labour Party See 1996 Pederation Executive was dealing with As the result of the British Workers Labour Presidents of the British Workers Labour W. Crooks, M.P., and Mr. Robert Tootal, M.P.

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LABOUR PROBLEMS AFTER THE WAR.

The Joint Committee on this subject has been responsible for the issue of the following publications during 1917:—

"THE PROBLEM OF UNEMPLOYMENT AFTER THE WAR":

Memoranda on the Prevention of Unemployment and the Necessity of the Revision of the Unemployment Insurance Acts.

Price 1d., post free; 2s. 6d. per 50; 5s. per 100; carriage paid.

"THE POSITION OF WOMEN AFTER THE WAR":

Report of the Standing Joint Committee of Industrial Women's Organisations presented to the Joint Committee on Labour Problems After the War.

Price 2d., post free; 5s. per 50; 10s. per 100; carriage paid.

" A MILLION NEW HOUSES AFTER THE WAR":

A Statement on the Housing Problem as Affected by the War, and Some Suggestions.

Price Id., post free; 2s. 6d. per 50; 5s. per 100; carriage paid.

"THE RESTORATION OF TRADE UNION CONDITIONS IN CASES NOT COVERED BY THE MUNITIONS ACTS":

A Statement of the Position, with Recommendations for Enforcement.

Price 1d., post free; 2s. 6d. per 50; 5s. per 100; carriage paid.

There has been a steady demand for all the Committee's publications and it is hoped that at an early date the Committee will be able to resume its activities.

When the Bill proposing to amend to the Munitions Act was in contemplation the Committee convened a special Conference of Trade Unions affected presided over by the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. G. J. Wardle, M.P., when the following Resolution was adopted and communicated to the Ministry of Munitions:—

That this Conference supports the amendments to the Munitions of War Bill now before Parliament, designed to give statutory sanction to the restoration of Trade Union Conditions in cases in which dilution or substitution has taken place under Government auspices not at present covered by the Munitions Acts, viz. —

- (1) At the end of Clause 1 insert the following new sub-section:

 (a) Where, during the period of the present War, an agreement involving a departure from Trade Union practice or custom has been entered into between employers and Trade Unions, either under the auspices of a Government Department or by direct negotiation between the parties, such agreement may, on the application of any Trade Union concerned, be registered at the Ministry of Labour.
- (b) On such an agreement being registered the employer shall be deemed to have entered into an undertaking to fulfil the terms of such agreement, and any employer who breaks or attempts to break all or any of the terms of such undertaking shall be guilty of an offence under the principal Act and liable to a fine as if his offence were a breach of Schedule II. of the Munitions of War Act.

ment Departments and Trade Common on Many 18th and 18th and 1916, and, as regards any undertaking made to the product of the undertaking to fulfil the terms of such appears to the who breaks of attempts to treak all or any of the transition and liable to a face as if his offices were a break of School II of the Munitions of War Act, 1915

RECONSTRUCTION AFTER THE WAR

A special Sub-Committee of the Executive as recently account to consider and report upon the question of Executive Executive to the new Social Order," has been unctioned by the Executive Indicate the new Social Order, has been unctioned by the Executive Indicate the new Social Order, has been unctioned by the Executive Indicate the new Social Order, has been unctioned by the Executive Indicate the Conference for the indicate the Conference in Conference in June 1918, or a special Conference in Superior Indicate Indicate

In general, the document has been based on Resolution at the by previous Conferences, particularly the great part of an extension of the Prime Muniter some works later. The report of the was issued as an Appendix to the Report of the Manda to Conference of the Minister, after laving had a question of considering the series of Resolution estimates that has been "be audicious!" Judging from the consistent that has been little assistion as affective way be gathered that there has been little assistion as affective Minister's advice.

DEATHS.

During the year our Movement has seriously by the facility of Mr. W. Marsland, for many year the Secretary of the Analysis. Association of Operative Cotton Sponsor, and who also took a part in the International Textule Movement; and Mr. I. I. W. Who, during recent years acted as Secretary of the National Union Railwaymen, and in that capacity assisted to that merged the Amalgamated Society of Railway Trade Unions into the prescoil powerful contains.

In common with the Miners' Federation we mourn the less of Mr. William House, of the Durham Miners' Association, who length several candidatures under our associoes, and who was always a legal expression of our political movement.

The recent and sudden death of Mr. Robert Brown, of the Scottish Mine Workers, has also deprived the Maners' Movement of a highly respected official, and our Conferences of a regular attractant.

The War continues to demand its tell of the yearness men in the Movement, as the extending Rolls of Henour of our various Trade Unions all too sadly testify.

PROPOSED RE-ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

In view of the proposal that the next Party Conference should be held in June, 1918, under the terms of the revised Constitution, the Executive Committee propose that they should remain in office until that date when a new Committee would be elected under the new conditions. They therefore submit the following Recommendation to the Party Conference:—

"The Constitution as amended and adopted at this Conference shall come into operation forthwith, provided that, until the Annual Meeting of the Party Conference in June, 1918, the National Executive of the Party, the Treasurer and the Secretary, together with the Annual Conference Arrangements Committee now holding office, shall continue to hold office and, for all purposes, be deemed to be and to have and exercise all the powers and duties of the National Executive, Treasurer, Secretary, and Annual Conference Arrangements Committee respectively, as if they had been duly elected under the amended Constitution."

W. FRANK PURDY, Chairman.

J. McGurk, Vice-Chairman.

J. RAMSAY MACDONALD, Treasurer.

W. C. ANDERSON.

W. C. ROBINSON.

W. CARTER.

BEN TURNER.

J. R. CLYNES.

EGERTON P. WAKE.

Tom Fox.

GEORGE J. WARDLE.

W. H. HUTCHINSON

SIDNEY WEBB.

F. W. JOWETT.

JAMES WIGNALL.

G. H. ROBERTS.

ARTHUR HENDERSON, Secretary.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ATTENDANCES

The Executive Committee met on 33 occasions during 1917. The following were the attendances of the various members

| W. F. Purdy Chairman) | | | 31 |
|----------------------------|---------|-------|------|
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| W. C. Anderson, M.P. | | | .0 |
| W. Carter | | | 0 |
| J. R. Clynes, M.P. | 0.0 | | 0" |
| I. Fox | | | 1 |
| W. H. Hutchinson | | | B 2, |
| F. W. Jowett, M.P. | | | 2.3 |
| G. H. Roberts, M.P. | | | 19 |
| W. C. Robinson | | | 011 |
| Ben Turner | | | 2. |
| Egerton P. Wake | 411 | | 3. |
| G. J. Wardle, M.P. | | | 2 |
| Sidney Webb | | | 31 |
| | | | 1. |
| Arthur Henderson (Sardary) | | | 24 |
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AUDITORS' REPORT.

We have much pleasure in reporting that we have examined al Books, Vouchers, and Accounts, and have assured ourselves on the authority of the Bank Manager that Treasury Bills amounting to £5,000 and £10,500 War Loan Bearer Bonds are in the custody of the Bank.

We should like to testify to the able manner in which the books are kept and the great help we have received from the Assistant Secretary, Mr. J. S. Middleton.

T. F. RICHARDS, CHRIS. WALKDEN, Auditors.

January 12th, 1918.

Invitation to the International Socialist Conference at Stockholm on the 15th August and following days.

WORKERS OF ALL COUNTRIES! UNITE!

The War has been going on now for three years and we do not yet to the end of the conflict.

It is the need to pave the way for this which has led the Comment of Workmen's and Soldiers' Delegates to mountain as fee the day of the Rossian Revolution, an International Conference of the Socialist World.

This proposal, which had been preceded by similar suggestions from many Socialist Parties, has been sunctioned by the All-Russia Congress of the Councils of Deputies. Its aims is to unite all the forces of the later national proletariat in order to obtain a peace without amenaticus or contributions, and based on the right of peoples freely to Superse of themselves.

To enable it to succeed in its work the delegation of the Resear Concils has been assured of the effective collaboration of the Data Scalled vian Committee, which has merged its plans in the Research in the research with had already clucidated numerous questions by separate configuration with most of the Socialist Parties in order to prepare for the General Conference. It has created an Organising Bureau composed of delegate of the Russian and Dutch-Scandinavian Committees. This Bereau has decided in order to avoid disputes, to respect as strictly as possible the general followed at the ordinary Congresses of the International as a good between admissions and the allocation of votes.

The Delegation of the All-Russia Congress of Workson's Deputies are the Dotch-Scandinavian Committee therefore invite to the General Conference all the parties affiliated to the International Socialist Burray; also those who, during the War, have been connected with the Berne Cossion—majorities and minorities, as well as the oppositions which is the course of recent events, have formed themselves into distinct Purses. They also invite the occupational organisations of haired to the Trades Union International. The Congress will be held at Stockholm on August 15th and following days.

The provisional programme of the Conference has been drawn up as rollows

- 1. The World War and the International
- 2. The Peace Programme and the International.
- 3. The ways and means of realising this Programme and beinging the War rapidly to an end.

The organisers of the General Conference are Seeply own and that is order to bring about the end of the World War the International ought induce all the Socialist Parties and all the Trade Union organises to abandon any co-operation with Governments with herefore to be International War aims, or which have adopted Imperialist aims in an upon or discussionanner and refused to renounce them.

Convinced that your organisation also approves of these views, and that it is ready to undertake to put into practice without hesitation or deviation the resolutions of the General Conference conforming to these principles, the Delegation of the Russian Council and the Dutch-Scandinavian Committee beg you to take an active part in the International Socialist Conference and to send representatives.

In the event of your organisation desiring to have placed on the Agenda any question which does not appear in the Programme of the Conference, a communication containing the proposal, accompanied by a report, ought to be addressed to the Organising Bureau of the International Conference, Uplands-gatan, 14, Stockholm, and be in the hands of the Secretary before August 5th.

Socialist and fraternal greetings

For the Delegation of the Russian Congress of Deputies of Soldiers and Workmen:—

H. ERLICH. N. ROUSSANNOFF.

J. GOLDENBURG. A. SMIRNOFF.

W. ROSANOFF.

For the Secretariat :-

CAMILLE HUYSMANS. ARTHUR ENGBERG.

For the Dutch-Scandinavian Committee :-

P. J. TROÉLSTRA. HJ. BRANTING.

11. H. VAN KOL. E. SODERBERG.

J. W. ALBARDA. G. MOLLER.

(Substitutes: F. I. BORGBJERG.

W. H. VLIEGEN, (Substitute:

F. M. WIBAUT.) NINA BANG)

I. VIDNES.

Stockholm, July 11th, 1917.

Supplementary Declaration of the Russian Delegation:-

The Delegation of the All-Russian Congress of the Councils of Workmen's and Soldiers' Deputies notes with regret that it has been unable to obtain the collaboration of the International Socialist Commission at Berne in the preliminary work of the General Conference.

The Delegation believed that it was its duty to make sure of the assistance of the Commission, not only because it had strict instructions to do so, but also because all the active Socialist Parties in Russia are affiliated to the Zimmerwald Union.

The participation of the Berne Commission in the preliminary work of the Conference appeared to the delegates especially necessary for another reason, that a considerable number of large Parties in Russia and abroad, affiliated to the Berne Commission had already expressed a desire to take part in the Conference proposed by the Council of Workmen and Soldiers.

Be that as it may, the International Socialist Commission, composed for the moment of four members who are at Stockholm, has refused to take part in the preliminary work, without, however, refusing to give the Delegation technical assistance.

The Zimmerwald Conference, where the question of participation at the General Conference will be considered, will be held five days before the meeting of the latter. Report of Meetings of Representatives of the British Labour Party, the Executive Committee of the French Socialist Party, and Delegates of the Russian Council of Workmen's and Soldiers' Deputies.

A meeting of the representatives of the British Labour Party [Work-Henderson, Mandonald, and Wardie], the December of the Russian Coordinate of Workmen's and Soldiers' Departies and the Essentian Councille The "C.A.P.") of the French Socialist Party, was held us Socialist. July 20th, 1917, at the offices of the latter (37, Itse Souther Labour Labour Movements would be prepared to affect the Descriptional Socialist Conference conversed jointly by the Dutch Socialist Conference conve

M. Dubreuhl, the Socretary of the Free Laborator Party of the steps that had been taken since the question of adding a Laborator laborator been raised by the Russian at the cod of May, 1917. A product sion then took place on the constitution of some Conferences formerly convened by the International Socialist Plants whether it was to be an adding meeting upday at the same passes.

Mr. Wardle moved that a small sub-committee should be appointed to decide the basis of representation at the Stockholm Conference, its date and place. This was carried, and a sub-consulties was broad as a larger consisting of Mr. Henderson and Mr. Macdonald | M. Lugger and M. Renaudel; M. Elrich and M. Goldenberg.

* The sub-committee met on Monday, July 20th, and detailed to recommend to the full Conference the eight following resolutions.

(1)

'The meeting expresses its cordial approval of the is "affect that the Soviet and supported by the Dutch Sandaga and Carmette, the result of which is the joint invitation of the two crackets to the walks class of all nations to meet at an International Social 1 and Laboratoric ference."

(2)

"The organizing bureau, consisting of the Residual delegation and the Dutch Scandinavian Committee, with the technical and the Secretariat of the International Socialist Bureau, is to have all all communications with the national sections for the purpose of the Conference."

(2)

"All bedies affiliated to the International shall be invited to take part in the Conference

(4)

"Where, since the War, these balies have been divided, the many is as well as the majorities shall be invited in those cases where the min is these have formed themselves into separate Parties."

(5)

"Trade Union organisations not affiliated to the I.S.B., but affiliated to the International Trade Union Bureau, shall be invited, provided that they are not already represented through organisations affiliated to the I.S.B."

(6)

"The invitations to each fraction of each national section shall be issued by the Organising Bureau, through the national sections of the International, and any appeal from the decisions of these sections shall be made to a Bureau to be elected, two representatives from each nation present, representing majority and minority, at the International Conference."

(7)

"The future and action of the International being dependent on the loyalty with which the resolutions passed by the Conference will be adhered to, the national sections who will take part in the Conference hereby under take, after the general decisions have been taken to declare definitely at the meeting of the International what effect they intend to give to such decisions."

(8)

"The sub-committee recommends that this meeting suggests to the organisers of the Conference that it should be held in Stockholm from September 9th to 16th. If there is any practical difficulty preventing this the organisers should be requested to hold it in Christiania or elsewhere on the dates named."

These resolutions were afterwards placed before a meeting of the British and Russian delegates and the Committee of the French Party, and were carried.

Discussion also took place on the agenda of the International Socialist Conference, with special reference to the statement contained in the official invitation, that the provisional programme was to consist of:—

- " 1. The World War and the International.
 - 2. The Peace Programme and the International.
- 3. The ways and means of realising this Programme and bringing the War rapidly to an end."

Address by the Right Hon. Arthur Henderson, M.P., at the Special Party Conference on August 10th, 1917.

In rising to address this Special Conference of the second occasion, I do so with a deep sense of my own personal responsibility. I desire to make what I hope will be a fair yet a frank statement of the position. It appears to me the more necessary to do so, partly because your Executive were undoubtedly influenced by information I supplied in making the recommendation before the Conference, and partly because of the grave doubts which have been cast upon my awn attitude in the martin. In order to make clear my position I must appeal to the delegates to hear in mind the fact that the political situation in Russia is, and has been, constantly changing. Unless that is borne in mind justice cannot be done either to the merits of the case as a whole or to any own present actions. I want to say quite freely that before I went to Russia some ten as tradiweeks ago I was opposed to the holding of an entimary International Conference. On my arrival in Petrograd I met the Executive of the Workmen's and Soldiers' Council. I met them on invitation, and though in Russia, as I distinctly told them, on a Government master I and I was going to speak to them as the Secretary of the Labour Movement. I put before them what I conceived to be the attitude of organised Lalaur to the War. I gave them the decision of the Manchester Conference against holding an International Conference in the form then declared. The question of their proposed Conference for which invitations and descriptions was discussed. I pointed out to them how impossible it would be but British Labour to accept an invitation under the conditions laid down as under any conditions until the Munchester documen had been reserved.

When I was presented with the statement of the Executive of the Workmen's and Soldiers' Council and the invitation they had already issued, it appeared to me that there were three courses open. One was definitely to decide on the rejection of the whole matter. Thave no best tion in saying that, having regard to the condition of public opinion is Russia at that moment, that would have been about the most fatal pentiles that I could have taken up, either in a Government capacity or as the representative of the great British Labour Movement. The second course open was to have informed them that I would come at the curlent possible opportunity and advise the Labour Party to reverse its decision, and accept the proposal for a Conference on their conditions. I made it unmistakably plain that I could do no such thing, and I hope before I sit down to give you the reasons why. The third course spen to see was to intimate to them that if they were prepared to change completely the conditions of their Conference, turning it from an obligatory Conference to a consultation for the purpose of exchanging views, I would come and recommend the great Labour Movement so far to reverse its decision as to make such a consultation possible. As everybody knows, except those who have been misled by the garbled statements in the Press, that was the position I took up, and that was the position which I shall show presently I maintain. Let me emphasise the fact that the Kumlans clearly had it in their mind that they wanted a binding Conference for the purpose of discussing actual terms of peace. British Labour, I stated, could only attend the Conference where their representatives would make a full and frank statement as to why they had supported the War, and as to what were the aims and objects in the hope of achieving which they still continued to support the War. I made it as plain as I was capable of doing that if a Conference was held in which we participated there could be no question of negotiating peace terms. I pointed out that the Socialists and Labour Parties in this and other countries were not yet the nation, and that the only people who were responsible for negotiating actual peace terms were the Governments of the respective countries, for upon them rested on behalf of the people the entire responsibility. I pointed out that there could be no binding decision of any kind, that it was absolutely impossible for us to contemplate entering the Conference where the decisions should be made mandatory and binding. I said that the Conference could be no more than an opportunity for an exchange of views. I went further. I said that in order that this might be effectively carried out it was absolutely necessary that representatives of all the Allied Countries should be present, including the United States of America.

I may be asked why I did not immediately reject all idea of British representatives attending such a Conference. The reason is simple. In my opinion, our case has never been properly stated and is certainly not properly understood to this day in Russia, and to have point blank refused to consider the question would have done incalculable harm.

As I have been opposed to an International Conference I would like to state why it was that I was influenced to take up the position that I have already indicated. One of the reasons was that I found the most confused ideas were current in Russia as to the aims for which our country continues the struggle. I even found not only confused but prejudiced ideas against the great Labour Movement, because of the mistaken notion of our attitude in supporting the War. Our objects have been perverted, and these perversions I found were being utilised to the full by enemy agents. It seemed to me that the proposed Conference under the conditions that I laid down, once they had been approved by you, would form a useful opportunity for a frank statement of our case, always providedand I emphasise the reservation—that satisfactory conditions could be laid down for the attendance of our best representatives. I must ask the delegates, whatever be their views, to remember the condition of affairs in Russia at the moment of which I am speaking. It is no exaggeration to say they were positively appalling, and it is difficult to say whether they have improved at the moment. But we must have regard to the fact that Russia was an Ally, and had been an Ally for three years, and I for one am not going to judge Russia by the unfortunate failure of the present instead of by the bravery of her troops in the past. I had to keep in my mind that British Labour-I do not say it disrespectfullyhad manifested a desire to assist Russia by almost every section competing one with the other to send delegations to that country. It will be said that they were anxious to try to consolidate the fruits of the Revolution. So was I. It may be said we were anxious to go and assist them to organise their forces against the onslaught of a cunning and ruthless enemy So was I. Further, you must remember that the Provisional Government at that time was in favour of a Conference, and several of its members pressed me more than once to use all the influence I had with British Labour to secure their attendance at the Conference.

Believing as I did that a Conference had become inevitable, owing to the determination of the Russians, I concluded, after great thought, that it would be highly inadvisable and perhaps dangerous for the Russian representatives to meet representatives from enemy and neutral countries alone. Unless, therefore, I was prepared to shut my eyes to the facts of the situation. I had no alternative but to lay twice the first two colors on my suggestion—before you the information I had not be recommend that British representatives should attend the Comprovided satisfactory on alters were first had the result of the Conference.

So much for the position as it was when I was in Equip. I drain now to examine the position in order to see how far it remains the assesse how far it has been modified. It would be a great mistake, I think, be any of us to try to persuade ourselves that there has been on change in Russia since the time of which I have just spokes. We are bound to seem use that there has been a tremendous change. The Provisional General ment then in power is no longer in office. It has been replaced by an almost entirely new Coalition under the leadership of that brave sent Kerensky. I admit that such evidence as I have, though it is not all the suggests that there has been some modification of the position of the new Government as compared with the old on the question of the proposed Conference. For instance, M. Terestchenko, the Foreign Musicier, has stated that at the present moment it is impossible to talk el peace. Taustelli, with whom I was repeatedly in convensation, and who is one of timost influential members of the Socialist Movement, and who has not joined the new Government, preferring for, I believe very satisfactory reasons, to remain at the head of his own Party, has now declared, with regard to the foreign policy of their country, that there is only one country. and that is, a continuation of the War until the Russian people have thrown off the shame lying on them and the freedom gained by the Revelution has been duly secured.

Now, from the purely British point of view there are some points which ought not to go unnoticed. An important factor that we Battlabers cannot possibly ignore is the decision of the American Fuderation of Labour and of the Belgian Socialists not to take part in the Combined I do not know the reasons why the American Federation of Labour has decided in this way, but I do know that the Belgian Socialists were prepared to take part in a Conference provided satisfactory conditions could be laid down. I think I am not going too far when I say that the Ferman Socialists were prepared to take part in a Conference provided within the conditions were laid down. But I ought to be perfectly frank, and to us that both these Parties took up a position smarely opposite to my ewn. They wanted not conditions of freedom, but combitions absolutely blading, and when in Petrograd I discussed it with my continue to the there, M. Thomas and M. Vandervelde. I had it down that I was totally opposed to anything in the nature of a binding Conference, no matter what the conditions were. Now the absence of these colleagues and representatives of these Parties must influence our point of view, however disappointing it may be to many of the delegates. Nor can we overlook the fact that 40 Socialist representatives in the French Perlament have recently made a protest against participation in the Coolecence on the conditions laid down. Another very important point is that the form of the Conference, or consultation, as I prefer to call it, at which we -! mean your Executive and myself-have been alreing, does not now appear possible, owing to the attitude of the Russian Socialists. They was demand a binding Conference. We continue opposed to a binding Conference. In this connection, may I submit to the delegates what M Rosanoff, who represents the Workmen's and Soldiers' Council on the committee that is now making arrangements for the Conference in Stockholm, says in giving his report to the Workmen's and Soldiers Council, as recently as last Saturday. He says: "The Detch-Scandingvian Committee, which at first wished that the resolutions of the Conference should

not be obligatory, on the point of view of their being put into practice, finally renounced this wish, and also adopted the Russian programme. When you get time to peruse the documents that have been circulated this morning, you will find that Appendix 1. consists of the Russian programme. Let us see exactly what that programme is, with all its binding character, because it has been accepted up till now, and we have not been able to get any change-it has to be accepted now without hesitation or equivocation. It would mean that the Stockholm Conference would have to be held under conditions that are far from being in accord with with the views of your Executive and myself when we determined to make the recommendation. If you will examine the first resolution to be moved to-day you will see that it makes an indipensable condition that any Conference that we attend, or that any representatives of the British Movement attend, must be consultative and not mandatory. We had always hoped to be able to secure a drastic change in the conditions of the Conference. We had hoped that we would be able so to alter them as to bring them into harmony with the actualities of the International situation. If we were to fail in obtaining such drastic alterations, let me show the delegates briefly what it would mean. It would mean the acceptance of the Russian programme, and that, in my judgement, would place British Labour in a most dangerous position—a position which, as I have shown, we have done everything to avoid. It would mean that, whatever resolutions were carried at the Conference, they would be binding on all of us who might be represented. What is more, I believe that any attempt to do that at a first Conference would destroy the effectiveness of the Conference, lead to angry recriminations, and make the Socialist and Labour Parties the laughing-stock of the world. Let me again repeat that, when in Petrograd, on every occasion, and when in Paris, about which you have heard so much. I strongly opposed the ideas of the Russian programme. I strongly insisted on no departure from our conditions, and I gave both the Russian Socialists and the French Socialists to understand that, so far as I, at any rate, was concerned—and I believe I was speaking for the whole Executive—it was a fundamental condition that the Conference should be a free exchange of opinions and not in any sense obligatory.

Notwithstanding all the opposition to the idea of a Conference, I am convinced that under proper safeguards a consultation such as I had in mind would have been productive of much good. Our case, as far as I know, has never been properly stated either to the German Socialists or to those of the Neutral Countries. In Russia, as I have already said, there is the most confused idea regarding the aims for which we, as a country, are continuing the struggle. If I am correct in my estimate of the position, surely a frank statement of our case presented by working-class representatives would have assisted in dispelling the mist from the minds of the Socialists in Russia and in Neutral Countries, and would probably have provided the German Minority Socialists with important new facts which have been purposely withheld from the German people. It was for these reasons, and these reasons only, that I advised your Executive to take the positions set out in the first resolution to be submitted to the Conference. I hope the delegates will dismiss from their minds the suggestion that any of us—and I put in the plea for myself—have been in any way influenced by either unworthy or unpatriotic motives. Convinced as I was that the Conference was inevitable, it was surely not unpatriotic for one who had supported the War as I had done—not so unpatriotic as some people and, some Press representatives appear to imagine—to try to prevent a bad impression being continued or a worse impression being formed on the minds of the Socialists of one of our own Allies. In my opinion, at any rate, our case is so strong—in fact, the case of the whole of the Allies is so strong—that if it were presented by responsible working-class representa-

tives it would materially costs in convincing the German people that it was the crime of their rulers that caused the War, and it is the crime of their rulers that now prevents its just settlement. It appears it time that to adopt such a course as I have indicated could not be other than valuable. provided it did not involve—and I attached the genitest importance to this qualification—any interference with military effort or sacrifice of acof the fundamental aims for which the Western democratics are fighting I do not think I am going too far when I say it has been very frequently stated of late that it would be much easier for this mustry and the Albert to negotiate a peace settlement if a real democratic Government were installed in Germany and Austria. We have become familiar with the statement. Surely then it could not be other than advantageous to the Allied cause for responsible leaders of Democrary, organized Labour, and Socialism from the Allied countries to press home this declaration on the minds of the German people, and especially the German Socialists. have not wavered in the slightest degree in my attitude to this War, each have I changed my mind as to the need of a final and complete settlement. but I want to say that in a War in which lower of such temble magnitude are being imposed on all the Nations it appears to me mit only wise but imperative that every country should use its political ways to see the ment all its military organisation, if by so doing it can deleat the eastern That is why I continue in favour of a consultative Conference with proper safeguards and conditions. May I make another person to see of my opponents? I fully realise that the course I have taken the respectively. for advising is not entirely free from difficulty, and I will others exsuspect a certain amount of danger in it. This is begand to be the case where so many different countries are allied together. In this are action we do not fail to appreciate the great need there is for the Socialist and Labour Parties of all the allied Countries to continue, if it be at all pesible, to support a common War policy. But, lowerer describe seek a position may be, I want to say this, that the absence of samplets agree ment should not prove an impediment to sound proposited at the age. consultative Conference.

I have now stated my case, and I freely and frankly have the desision to this great Conference. There is no diagulating the fact that it is enof the most momentous decisions you have ever had to ther, and I pelwith the Chairman in appealing to you to settle it, not seemly from Party considerations, but from the standpoint of national interests. Let us try to take our decisions without being influenced in the alighters degree by what I cannot characterise in any other way than as the management agitation that has been carried on outside. Let us be influened by the interests of the nation of which we form a part and for which the workers have done so much during this War. Let us remember peer structure Russia, whose great miracle we all welcomed with such delight a less weakago, and of whom it was universally admitted that it had done the fract thing that had ever been done during the whole War, Let as member poor Russia, and if we cannot give the newest Democracy, the buleat of Democracies, all she asks, I beseech you not to give her an entire point blank refusal. Of this I am convinced, and I want to say this with all the seriousness and deliberation of which I am capable, that if we andley, representing as we do the great British Labour and Socialist Macamena. determine for the whole period of the War, not to use the political weapon to supplement our military activities, not only shall I regret it, but I see venture to predict that you as a Movement will regret it bewarter. We final word to the Conference is: Let us by all means at our dispusawhether they be military or whether they be political, strave to seems such a victory as will ensure for the world a haring, horocrable, and

democratic peace.

PARLIAMENTARY REPORT.

At the first meeting of the Session the following Officers were appointed:—Acting Chairman: G. J. Wardle: Secretary: Charles Duncan; Chief Whip: James Parker; Junior Whip: C. W. Bowerman.

Upon Mr. Wardle becoming Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade, his retirement from the position of Acting Chairman had to be considered. Mr. Henderson was, of course, in the early days of the War appointed Chairman for the war period, and upon his resignation from the Government he automatically returned to the work of Chairman of the Party. In consequence, however, of the extra work thrown upon him as Secretary of the National Executive in connection with the scheme of re-organisation of the Party, it was decided to rescind the decision referred to and release Mr. Henderson from the duties attached to the Chairmanship. A resolution thanking Mr. Henderson for the valuable services rendered by him during his period of office in the Chair was placed on record; and Mr. Adamson was elected Chairman for the remainder of the Session.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE BILL.

At the first meeting, the National Executive being present, the question of Electoral Reform was considered, and it was agreed that a Special Conference be called to consider the Report of the Speaker's Conference. It was also decided that the Party should urge upon the Government the necessity for early legislation based upon that Report.

Later in the Session the Bill was introduced. The Bill being based upon the Report of the Speaker's Conference, and the Special Conference having endorsed that Report as a compromise, the Party had to act accordingly; but, although the Bill was based upon a compromise, it represented a far-reaching reform in the Franchise and in Electoral Law. The inclusion of women in the Parliamentary Franchise made the Bill of first-class importance. Whilst bearing in mind that the scheme was a compromise, the Party were instrumental in securing several important amendments; The local government vote was extended to the wives of electors; and the local government vote was also extended to a man who inhabits a house by virtue of his office, service or employment. As the Bill was originally drafted, such a man as a caretaker residing on the premises was excluded fron the municipal franchise.

Although the Bill as introduced provided for a system of Proportional Representation in the larger constituencies, this was subsequently deleted, but a provision for the Alternative Vote was secured.

At the time of preparing this Report the Bill has not passed into law, but the Session will not end until it is disposed of one way or the other. It is hoped that it will soon be placed on the Statute Book and the registration machinery set up to provide for eventualities.

FINANCE BILL.

The Party made itself responsible for several Amendments to this Bill with respect to certain Taxes. At the request of the Co-operative Alliance amendments were put down (1) to except co-operative societies from the imposition of excess profits tax altogether, and, failing to secure this, (2) to alter the method of assessment. The Party failed to secure the first amendment but did secure an alteration in the method of assessment.

With regard to the imposition of home tax upon suggestations amendments were put down (I) that (150 per year already be the limit of income assessable, and (2) to provide for abstraction in separate fall dependants mabbe to same their own fixing by smaon of physical mappacity. On the first assessment, the Party was assessed by the the second an amendment was secured allowing abstract in respect at adopted children up to the age of 16 years. The Party propose to make the question of the incidence of the income tax as regards suggesting allowing and approximately again next Section.

An Amendment was also moved limiting the proposal increasing the Entertainments Tax in respect to the leave priors and a comparison was obtained.

CORN PRODUCTION BILL

The provisions of this Pall, especially those relating to the stability ment of a minimum rate of wages for worker in agreement of a minimum rate of wages for worker in agreement. The considered very care fully. Consultations took place with the receives of the Agricultural Labourers. Union, and a second to be moved were agreed upon, the more important of which was fixing the maximum bours for which the minimum rate from 25s to 30s; that the same should be paid wholly in cash; that all workers should be suited as a week's notice to terminate employment and be guaranteed as wage without deductions in respect of time but the to had weather or other conditions not within the control of the way.

The question of working hours, overtime, etc., was dealt will by amendments empowering the Agricultural Wages Board to take them into consideration. The Party moved the amendment increasing the minimum rate from 25s, to 30s, and took it to a division but it was defeated. It is only fair to say that difference of opinion existed attempt supporters of the measure as to the practicability of this figure. As a result of the method by which the question was put in the House the probability was that if the 25s, had been deleted no figure would have been inserted in its place-a result that friends of the Edb and the Agricultural Labourers' Union did not desire. On the subject of cash wages an amendment was secured empowering the Wages Board to limit or prohibit the reckoning of benefits or advantages as pursued of wages in Beu of cash. This was considered very satisfactory, as it will enable the Board to have regard to the conditions prevailing in particuladistricts. A further amendment was secured, taken from the Con-Mines (Minimum Wages) Act, to the effect that nothing in the Act wheeld prejudice any agreement or custom existing for the payment of sales higher than the minimum rate fixed, and in settling any minimum rate the Board should have regard to the average weekly rate of wages per to the workmen in the district for which the rate is to be settled. The Party also secured an Amendment giving to a workers. the right to be represented by any person on his behalf. The Bill was rundle improved during its passage through the House and it was plained in the Statute Book in August.

NATIONAL INSURANCE BILLS

Two National Insurance Dabs were latrodical themsive measure based upon the malings of a special Committee in main objects being to give statutory sanction to an world state of [400,000, to come to the aid of the less prospected societies and to simplify the work of administration. The Data a smooth passage through the House. Late in the Second at 15 of Ballonian and the same of the less prospected as the same of the same of the less prospected as the same of the same of

was introduced giving the Ministry of Labour power to exempt certain trades from the Unemployment Insurance Act applicable to all munition workers, and to vary the amount of benefit payable should funds permit. The introduction and passage of this Bill are due to efforts made by Members of the Party some time ago at the instance of several Unions.

COURTS (EMERGENCY POWERS) BILL.

This Bill to amend in certain respects the Courts (Emergency Powers) Act and the Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest Act was introduced and passed. The Party were able to secure several useful amendments. One amendment moved sought to impose a penalty upon any landlord found guilty of charging above the standard rent. What was eventually agreed to was an amendment making it an offence for a landlord to enter as arrears in the rent book any amount over and above the standard rent. Another amendment sought to reverse the decision of the courts that any increase in rent illegally charged was not recoverable from the landlord. The Party were successful in securing this during the passage of the Bill through the Commons, but the House of Lords made an important amendment providing that this should not have retrospective application. When the Lords' Amendments came up for consideration the Party fought for and ultimately secured the rejection of this mischievous amendment.

TRADE UNION AMALGAMATION BILL.

It is worthy of note that the first Minister of Labour piloted successfully through Parliament a little Bill to render amalgamation of Unions easier. The law was that any proposed amalgamation must be carried by the assent of two-thirds of the members of each of the Unions concerned. As passed, this new Act enables amalgamation to take place provided 50 per cent. of the members entitled to vote exercise that right and there is a 20 per cent. majority in favour of the proposal. The Bill was not introduced on these lines, but to secure a safe and speedy passage modifications were agreed to.

MUNITIONS OF WAR (AMENDMENT) BILL.

This Bill was introduced early in the Session but was not proceeded with for a time, there being opposition to the provisions contained in it in the direction of dilution of labour on private and commercial work. Just before the August Adjournment the Bill was allowed to go through on the advice of the Unions concerned, the provisions relating to dilution being dropped. The Party had several amendments down to amend the original Act in the direction of safeguarding more completely the interests of the Unions after the War. The Minister of Munitions pleaded urgency for the Bill then before the House, and promised that a more comprehensive measure would be introduced later. It is anticipated that this will be brought before the House in the next Session, and if it does not deal with the points raised in the Party's amendments, those amendments will be put down again.

EDUCATION BILL.

It is a matter of regret that this Bill has only received a First Reading. The Government were urged to find time for its passage and at the time of preparing this Report the Government gave a promise that if the Session extended over Christmas an effort would be made to find the necessary time. It is noteworthy that practically all parties want to see the measure passed, but no doubt the opposition from certain quarters would be sufficiently strong to make its consideration a lengthy

process. The Bill marks a great advance in Education and the Market of Education is to be congratulated on the course. It has not deal however, with the children who cer account of the exignment of the War have entered the industrial field and have not reason. It will be of children in normal times. The Party have present the latter to the attention of the Minister and he has undertaken to do what is possible to make good to these children what they have been

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION

Reference ought to be made to the fact that a sent Bill serve by 25 per cent the compensation payable to select the frequency of the frequency of the facts of the Farty's transmitted to be the Home Office, who took great trouble to be the facts of the Farty's transmitted to be the parameter of the parameter and without anomalies who have a select the facts of the fac

REPRESENTATION ON COMMITTEES.

An immense amount of work is being done on the various Committees. Of the numerous Committees on which the party is represented the following may be mentioned:—

Central Control Board (Liquor Traffic).
Reconstruction (Several Committee)
Civil Aerial Transport.
Tobacco Control Board.
Mihtary (Review of Exceptions)
Liquor Trade Purchase.
National Expenditure.
House of Lords.
Compensation for Damage due to Air Raids.

GENERAL

This Report deals almost entirely with legislation and less appretend to give anything like a complete account of all the activities of the Party—the questions put, the contributions made is deale as the debates initiated, and the interviews with Ministers at anticoncessions have been obtained. The output of does to be this Session has almost returned to the normal and the injustation of 2s. 6d. to old Age Pensioners, the increase in the rate of just to min the Forces; and the new Pension Warrant. The public of the prices has been raised time and time again. Many decides the place, and although the present position is far from attractory if safe to say that the Ministry of Food in which the Party has a present tive, is endeavouring to tackle what is a very thorny and one of the present position.

During the Session the Party has had an addition to its removable in accordance with the political truce, the National Executive and responsible for the candidators of Mr. Ben Tillett is the National Executive Division, but upon Mr. Tillett's election to Parlias and to the Party and work in co-operation with Lis Labour colleges.

W. Ananson, Chairman. Charles Denicas, Scientery.

Jas. Dovle, 114 Grange Road East, Middlesbrough.

Jarrow-on-Tyne

List of Societies affiliated to the Labour Party, Number of Members, and Amounts paid for 1917, with Names and Addresses of Secretaries and of Delegates to the Nottingham Conference, or to the adjourned Conference in London, 1918.

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| Del ale, and 11de | G. E. Hewitt Vaterine Pare Hersham, | | J. Heap, 33, Miblemball Road, Chapton, London, E. Connelles Street Mass School | | 30 | H - | J. Sharp, Secretar. Coun. Thomas McKenna, Secretary. Ald. P. Walls, J.P., S. Oxford Street, | Count. H. Nixon, 9, Frodingham Road, Scurtherpe, Lines. | Road, Kettering. Prendergast, e.e. Mr. H. Nixon, 9, Fredingham Road, Scunthorpe. J. Hall, 31, Newport Road, Stafford. | Road, Stafford. Coun. A. Callighan, 49, Randolph Street, |
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| No of Affiliation Secretary and Address. | sooo 20 15 S R B. Walker, Wensum House, Hempton, Fakenham, Nortolk. | 2000 816 8 J. G. Butler, 57, Fimlico Road, | 1900 16 13 4 B. Brooke, 132, Great Ancoats Street, Manchester. | 3000 12 to o D. Jones, 44. Sefton Terrace Leeds 1200 5 o o H. Shaw, 27, Corporation Street, | onoo 25 u u W Banfield, 57, Svdney Street, Chelsea. London, S.W. 3. | 5000 20 16 S W. G. Hunter, 58 West Regent Street, Glasgow, Scotland. | 180 o 15 o I. Sharp, 20, Oxford Street, London, E. 22000 oi 13 4 Coun. Thomas McKenna, 87, Borough Road, Middlesbrough. | | | |
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| Name of Society. | Agricultural Labourers and Kural Workers' Union, National | Army Clothing Employees' Union | Assurance Agents, National Union of Life | Assurance Agents, Prodential Asylum Workers Union, National | Bakers and Confectioners, Amalgamated Union of Operative | Bakers, National Federal Union of, Scotland | Bakers' Union, London Jewish Blastfurnacemen, Ore Miners, Ac. | | | |

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| Deligates and Advence | . W. Schofield, Secretary. | . Tom Lewis, Secretary M. Brothers, Secretary. | R GH | Oldham. T. S. Wood, 239, New Hey R. Hey, nr. Rochdale. J. J. Kingsley, Secretary. B. Kay, e. Co Card Room C. Bennie Steady. | = - | M. Carmody, Secretary. S. Milligan, 19, Widdop Street, Oldham. | Choriton-on-Mediock, Manchester. W. Shaw, 16, Church Street, Partick, | B. Dodd, 34, Fairfield Street, Darlington E. E. Scott, 40. Exe Street, Liverpool. A. G. Gossing, 147, Buchanan Gardens, Willesden, London, N.W. | E. H. Jarvis, 109, Greville Road, South- ville, Bristol. R. Waugh, 42. Deramore Avenue, Relfast Treland. | vid Richards 33. Virginia | F. Potter, 65, Park Street, Kidder- minster. F. Rothwell op Royds Street, Rochdale. |
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| Name of Society. Members. | Cardroom Association, Heywood | Card and Blowing Room and Ring Spinners' Association, North Lancashire Card and Blowing Room Operatives | North-East Lancashire (ard and Blowing Room Association, Card and Blowing Room Association, Card and Blowing Room Association, | Card and Blowing Room Association, | Card and Blowing Room Operatives South-East Lancashire Card, Blowing Room and Ring Spinners' | Association, Stockport Cardroom Operatives and Ring Spinners' Association, Wigan Cop Packers' Association, Oldham and | Unstrict Carpenters and Joiners, Amalgamated 34036 Society of | | | | Carpet Weavers' Mutual Defence, &c 800 Association, Kidderminster Carters, Lurrymen and Motor Mon's 5000 Union |

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| Name of Society. | Dock Labourers. National Union of | | Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union | • | Dyers and Finishers, National Society of Electrical Trades Union |

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Miners Federation of Great Britain (continued)

Name of Society.

Delegales and Addresses.

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| Durham. | | n, Dover | : | , Work | Il Road | omice. | familton | : | : : | | : : : | Offices | : | : | : | |
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Miners' Federation of Great Britain ...

Name of Society.

Delegates and Addresses.

Secretary and Address .

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| | Name of Society. | Miners' Federation of Great Br tain (continued) | Painters' Society, Scottish | Paper Makers, Amalgamated Society of | Paper Stainers' Union of General Workers | Pen and Pocket Blade Forgers' | Plasterers, National Association of Operative | ederation | Pottery Workers, National Society of | Press Felegraphists, National Union of | Preventive Men's Association (Cascoms and Excise) Preventive Officers' Association | |

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| Dolegates and Addresses. | Coun. R. F. Jackson, Labour Institute, Orehard Street, Isswich, T. Bird, J. Kensengton Road Treswich, | Park, London, N. 4. T. Harris, Secretary. | Frank Smith, "Glendouglas," 67. Long- ley Road, Tooting, London, S.W. 17. J. Stonier, Secretary. H. Leese, Rookery, nr. Tunstall, Stoke- | on Trent. Ald. G. Banton, J.P., Stapleford, West-field Road, Leirester. G. Parbury, Trade Hall, St. James | Street, Leicester. C. Walkden, Secretary. F. Hoev, Secretary. W. A. Robinson, C.C., 13, St. Andrew's | T. H. Evans, 53, Andrew Street, Llanelly, S. Wales. H. Morrison, Secretary. | R. J. Davies, o. Booth Avenue, Withington, Manchester, C. Priestley, 6, Cardigan Street, Philip's Park Road, Beswick Manchester. | cretary. King E | . Z. Andrews. Secretary W. Harris, Secretary Coun. I. Jones, Queen's Road, Cwmsyfieg | New Iredegar, Mon. |
|------------------------------|--|--|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|--|
| Secretary and Address. | E. R. Newbery, 41. Upper Wellington Street Long Eaton. R. S. Robson, 283, Warrington Road, Abram, Lancs. A. J. Watson, Labour Institute, Orchard Street, Ipswich | C. E. Coleman, 4, Rocliffe Street, Islington, London T. Gibb, 2, Grange Place, Jarrow-on-Tyne. W. T. Harris, 12, Broadway, Bexley Heath, Kent. | H. Urie, 15, Crescent Grove, Clapham Common, London, S.W. 4. J. J. Stonier, Miners' Offices, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent. | S. Rockley, 29, Ellis Avenue, Leicester. | C. Walkden, S. Kirkhall Lane, Leigh, Lancs. F. Hoey, 26, Mauretania Road, Queen's Drive, Walton, Liverpool. | B. J. Griffiths, 16, Walters Road, Llanelly. H. Morrison, 7, Staple Inn Buildings, Holborn, London, | I. Martiew, 99, Chestergate, Macclesfield. Coun. W. T. Jackson, 50, Lansdowne Road, Crumpsall, . Manchester. | J. G. Pratt, 57, Harrington Street, Mansfield. Matt Lewis, 12, Elm Grove, Aberdare, South Wales | Z. Andrews, 7. Emlyn Terrace, Talywain, Pontypool W. Harris, Arfryn, Bryn Road, Pontllanfraith, Mon W. Harris, Arfryn, Bryn Road, Pontllanfraith, Mon | D. Duncan, 101, Montrose Street, Brechin |
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Morpeth Boroughs Labour Party Marler Lair Sey resentations

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| Description and Carrie | V. G. Davies, Secretary, W. H. Chment, 9, Mass Street, St. | I Chapman, Serviney D. Dawson, 22, Poplar Street, Throckley, Noneparate Trees. | Coun. Sam. Botterworth, 62. Thornes. | | J. Harrison, 16c, Manie Street, Ashing- | W. T. Wilson, M.P. 98, Mornington | Miss E. W. Macnaghten, 29, Greycoat | | I. Borne Hdl Street, Wigan | Coun, A. Smith, 71, Burns Road, Har- | Coun. W. Horsman, 23. Hos. 12gton Road, York. | | Camulle Huysmans, Secretary | Deputy Pierre Renausiel, "Ultumanite", 142, Rue Montmarire, Paris | Deputy Jean Longuet, w. Kue d Aulnay, Chatemay (Seine, Paris, Emile Vandervelde Le Mayre France | London S W. | Max Litwinoff 11, Bigwood Road, Hamp- | J. W. Ogden, J.P. Weavers, Office, Heywood, Lancs. | G. Goodenough, 18, Charles Street, |
| | | | | | | | | | | | - 1 | | : | | | 1 | | | i |
| Secretary and Address. | J. G. Davies, 50, Terrace Road, Swansea | . J Chapman, 68, Farndale Road, Newsastle-on-Tyne | J. H. Butterworth, 1. Burkhill Street, Sandal, Walke-field | A. H. Fox, 30. Bescot Street, Walsall. | R. Allan, 20, Church Row, Bates Cottages, seaton | G. Harper, IT. Chorley New Road, Horwich. | . E. J. Howell Fabian Society, 25, Tothill Street, | Westminster, London, S.W. I. T. Wilkinson, Labour Hall, Fox Lane, Whitehaven, | . W. C. Rae, 2, Ratcliffe Street, Wigan. | . Coun. Haks Bolton, 15. Montrose Avenue, London, | Coun. W. Barefoot, J.P., 3, New Road, Woolwich, S.F., | Fraternal Delegates. | Camille Huvsmans (Temporary Address), 38. Klara | Louis Dabreuilli, 37, Rue Sainte-Croix le-la-Bretonnerie, Paris (IV). | | | | . Rt. Hon. C. W. Bowerman, M.P. General Buildings. | H J May, 14, Great Smith street, London, S.W. 1. |
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| Nome of Courses. April | Swansea Labour Association | Tyneside Labour Representation | Wakefield Labour Party | Walsall Labour Representation | Wansbeck Labour Representation | Westhoughton Parliamentary | Westminster Labour Party | Whitehaven Labour Representation | Wigan and District Labour | Willesden Labour Party | Woolwich Labour Party York Labour Party | | International Socialist Bureau | Parti Socialiste Française | Belgian Labour Party | | Russian Soldiers and Peasants' Movement | Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Conduces | Parliamentary Committee of the Co-operative |

REPORT OF CONFERENCE.

The Sevent math Amount Continues of the Labour Party was quested in the Affect Hall Nottingham, or Wellmeley January and type, at room and the musice of departs or quite the state of the second of of the secon

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WEDNESDAY'S SESSION.

Ms. W. C. ANDERSON, M.P., (Independent Labour Party) moved:—

That Mr. U. F. Pardy fromde wer this C. wforen e.

Mr. W. C. ROBENSON (United Textile Pactory Workers) seconded

The motion was carried anammously, and Mr. Purily took the Chair.

ADDRESSIS OF WILCOME

Councilion H. Bowles (President of the Nottingham Labour Party) offered the delegates a very hearty welcome to the city of Nottineham. He regretted that the present conditions were such that the arrangements made might not be so satisfactory as in normal times, but he trusted that the minimum of inconvenies a might be caused to the delegates. While the Labour Mercement in Notingham was not as strong numerically may they would like, still they claimed that in enthusiasm and energy it lacked nothing compared with other towns, and they hoped as a result of the Conference to secure a considerable influx of new members, less austhose Trade Unions that remained outside from one cause or another would say the necessity for falling into line and doing their share locally. Nothingham was extremely proud that it had been chosen as the place for the Seconteenth Annual Conference of the Party, which he ventured to sage at would be the most important Contevence the Party had ever held. Not only the workers of England, but the workers right throughout the world had their eyes axed on Nottingham; they knew that the deliberations of the

delegated would affect all determines. I've framed that the Contention would lead to what they all desired—a just and specify Pener not only by that country but by the whole world.

Ma. W. Witness (Periolent of the Nottinghave Tables Councily heartly well-stood the dalogates. . They were morning this city which had an industrial libitory worths of a visit from the great thetherhood of Labour. Within the yards, Thursd. Harpenson, the Blockborn searcy had be total metalogs where he patiented his marriellous spiriting Birbani Arkengke bilancii ndiii bis sevention, the sweat of which had been untied wealth. The diverse who now the control of the honey and her inflatives, and ar jacon was a great coal field area. Labour regimestion had been built up in pulses himse and namble, and while there was still reason to much improvement they had a great tand of sugar Described organized workers. He had been justincted to extend a welcome on behalf of the Oby-the Mayor, the Streetly, the civic authorities and the whole of the chosen of the city. The instruction had done as much as they shall not the compet of the delegated. On Monday Play had refler that locty lamba would be next to the city to order to appear the tarring entered Labour. It was as for an the molecules sould be in avoid any sedan strain open the corp. He hoped that in the Conference wouldes and tolerance would push the decisions of the delegates and that the intity and written in the Labour Movement would be first our and only dealer.

Ten Countries expressed thanks for the speeches of welcome.

CHARMAN'S ADDRESS

Address ...

FILLOW WINKISS

I think you very sincerely for road freesideraction to apparenting me to the China. As is an important position, and to take smit on we are, and have pleased through the ingreat and grave surposessibility.

This is the third tuniness which I have been the bound to possible been used in the Chargeson of the Scatternal Executive, and in the masseal which has single-of many or had in Assembly Conference made has baryoned which will live long in history, that self-bare to

mark on the Labour Party, and may probably in the near future result in moulding its policy during the continuance of the War and in the reconstruction of the social and economnomic labric of society which will follow when this War, and all that it has entailed has passed away, leaving the democracies of the world once more tree to pursue the peaceful paths of social and economic development, and for the promotion in all countries of all that makes for social betterment and human happiness, freed from the nightmare of Militarism and Armaments, which has brooded over Europe for generations past.

This is the third Annual Conference of the Party which has been held since War broke Many, if not all, went away from our last Conference in the servent hope that our Conference in 1918, would see the World's War at an end, and a just and lasting Peace secured to the people of the different countries of Europe a world freed from the destruction and brutality which War brings in its train, with its appalling loss of life and treasure, once more bent on re-building the national and international superstruction on a armer and more democratic foundation, healing the wounds which the War had inflicted, looking after the widows and orphans, caming for the disabled soldier and sailor, and for those injured on the industrial field as a result of this conflict. Our hopes have not been realised, and the War continues with unabated fury taking its toll of young manhood, and draining the world of its wealth. It has been a long drawn out agony, and no section has felt the devastating effects and horrors of War more than the industrial classes of the world, upon whom has fallen the great brant of this conflict, and who for generations after the War, will seel its effects upon their industrial and economic life.

Since we last met in Conicrence, many momentous and important events have occurred, events which from a democratic point of view will have far reaching effects upon our industrial and economic life.

The Russian Revolution is an accomplished fact, and will be one of the greatest events in the history of the War and of the Century. Everywhere free people hailed with delight the throwing off of the chains of Czardom and autocratic rule by the Russian Democracy. Whatever the Labour Party may have thought of the possible effects of the Revolution in Russia in relation to the War, they at least welcomed the release of the Russian people from the thraldom which for so many generations kept them apart from their comrades in all parts of the world, where freedom and liberty were valued.

The Russian people to-day are going through an agony of struggle and trial; many things may happen to them, but the least which we as representing the Labour forces in this country can do, is to sympathize with them in their efforts for an ordered Government, and to help them to a fuller understanding of our position, our aims and objects in this War, such as our own responsible Government has never shown.

Revolutions are not popular with Governments of any country, and if in the earlier stages of the trouble in Russia, our Government and its Allies had endeavoured to appreciate the real meaning of the Revolution they would not have been so lukewarm over the matter. The suspicion which they aroused as to our aims in this War, their hostility to a free interchange of opinions has done in alculable harm to the Albed Cause so far as Revolutionary Russia is concerned. Our own Government sent its special representative to Russia to study the situation on the spot, yet it cannot be said that they accepted his advice on the position as he found it, nor adopted the recommendations he made. Even now, notwithstanding all that has taken place, we find no great anxiety on the part of the present Government to recognise those who are acting as representatives of the Russian people.

President Wilson in his recent historic utterance struck the right note when he expressed " the desire and the hope that some way may be found to assist the Russian people to attain their utmost hope of Liberty and ordered Everything must be done by the Labour Party to prevent Russian representatives making a separate Peace with the Central Powers, as nothing would be more disastrous to our common cause and the Democracies of Europe. The Peace, when it comes, must be a general Peace, a just Peace, a lasting Peace, a Peace which will secure liberty and freedom to all nations great and small, based on the will of the people. It must be a P-ace in which Labour nationally and internationally must play its part in order to ensure justice and equity to the common people.

Since we last met in Annual Conference, the United States of America have joined in this great World struggle, after long, patient and exhaustive discussions. In entering the War, on behalf of civilisation and democracy. President Wilson laid it down clearly and unmistakeably that they entered into the struggle not for conquest, not for territory but to assist in freeing the world from Militarism and Autocracy, no matter where. We, in this country, welcomed their entrance in this struggle between a system of Autocracy and Democracy. We appreciate the lofty motives and disinterestedness which induced them to become our Allies, but we welcomed it more, because it demonstrated, as nothing else could do, the unity of the British speaking race.

During the year and after Conferences and full discussions, the Trade Union and Labour Movement have issued their Memorandum on War Aims, which lays down the principles on which the Labour Movement considers any terms for settlement of this world-wide War, should be made. Since then the Prime Minister of this Country, through the medium of a Labour Conference, has made a declaration as representing the Government's War Aims and the principles for which they stood. The declaration as a whole is a clear exposition of the Aims for which we are continuing the War. In many respects it accepts the

performance who had been readed to be a seed for the readed to be a seed of the readed to the formation of When Acoms.

There declarations make it possible for Geometry and her Allon no height to say they are fighting a chelentive War, and will help to alley the suspicious of suppy of our own propile to be our aims and objects, and should enable at to only to being the War to a recommend formulation on the principle which have from an theory last down. Inc. while the Affice have made it clear that they are not out to destroy the German nation, we see no sign as get that the Cantral Powers are willing to scoops the principles which have been enemalated by the Prime Minister. President Wilson, or by the Labour Party. Will they agree to evacuate Bolgium, Northern France and other territories now under their sway? If they are sinears to their deare for Peace based on the principles of Justice and loghtsources, the way has been opened to them? Let then any the principles limit down by Provident Wilson and the way in clear for a world attlement that will contain me greens of lutury wars.

The Peace propositions which have been points on between Homes and the Central Empires do not above that Germany will agree to the formula. No agreeastors and no indemnities." Indeed, the multary party seems to have mined the anomdancy. Why A look at the war map of Europe will give the reason Gorman military power has grown since 1914. They are fighting not on their own territory but on other's. I be it more territory of the Allies in rury than they A Peace by negotiations, while did in tota Germany still occupies these territories, would be interpreted as a Victory for her and would fasten militarism some strongly en the people, not only in Germany, but throughout the whole world. It suight being Peace, but it would be a drawn and inconclesive Prace, and leave future concessions exposed to a renewal of this hearthly carriers. If Germany and her Allies are not willing to accept the priociples which the Allies have now published to the world, then we must fight on. No other course is possible, if we value our beacur as a sation, and our pledged word to Pelgium. Servin and France. We now it to those who have made the supreme sacrifice; to those who have been disabled in this War, to easy on said we can shiain " a chira I cace, which will stubble the people of the World to live in the future in security and Peace.

The course of the Resolution is It mean greater sacrifice than ever for the people of the country at the Alexander I believe the heart of the people is some less than though

The Labour Party of its Conference has included by the labour the same of the labour the lab

While the Wor and its course much revery the larger amount of our orders thought see afficieties, we must not how agits of introval Avelingments at home. The most striking reform which has been achieved to the Properseparation of the People Bill; the offers of notice has been to change our electronic Laws in the most radical manner. It practically mount the doubling of the circles to also, and, more insperiord of all, the administrate of size tealings women to the Purliamentary Franchise. It her been a long struggle to chitain. Votes for Women, "and even one we have not all that we desire, nor all we have the right to dominal Neverthelest, it is a great step forward, and will belo us to pure with greater vigner the claim for tempters Little Suffrage. The splended service which women have read-oud in this period of patients memory has percent that they must take an increasing interest in all that makes for the betterment or the nation and 26 development. Now that a portial victory has been wor, and a remintion wrought in our emotivation bit on take Surget to pay our more of passes to the great services of these women, who at great prevents marrished reschapped his work, on his the connectputon of their use and a purguition of their proper positive in national affairs. The Lalaur Farty a great tasks to our norms, workers. In money ways they have keyally given of their loot to serve our Movement. In the part, without votes, without much recognition, enough at alledian black, they have given segred; by mercion. Now Mary come in with in with the name sight to vide as opposited, and we point nor to it that her working somes who have second the franchise are solumed within the fold of the Labour Party or resulpartners. The Labour Party has a source epportunity, and in every constituency the Local Labour Party must see that the women values. The stationary of whom will be the stive of working now, we brought within the scope at our Movement.

The Labour Party great appeal to the southing women of the country. Our observacom name and applications appeal to these
as well as in reserves. Women an own
into our Minormest on complete we appeally.
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side by side our do much to book up a reademocratic porry, strong, strongerle and
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they can play an important and democratic
part. With symposium and evaporation
between working men and evaporation, or can

move forward unitedly, increase our political and industrial power, and hasten the day when we can control the machinery of State, not in the interest of a class, but for the benefit of the whole nation for whom Liberty and Louding principles. By Liberty mean sixil religious and industrial Liberts. By Equality, equality of opportunity, a State where poverty is no disqualincation and wealth contents no advantages, but where personal merits and services to the nation will be recognised and rewarded

The paying of the Representation of the Post's Bill once more throws into bold relief the attitude of many of our hereditary leg lature. But for the stress and strain of War and national emergency, it is safe to Locals would have obstructed, a not detected, this long delayed measure of reform. As a Labour Party, we must keep a watchful eye on any attempt to reform the House of Lords. There will be no benefit to the industrial classes of this country with an extended Franchise it we are to have a Second Chamber, whether elected on a limited Franchise, or by some other tan a method, thwarting or delaying the expressed will or the people through their elected representatives. The present House of Lords has long been the butto .. of kings and Courts and Landed and Capitalist Monopolists. The bereditary principle must go. It after this War has finished, we are to have "Government by consent of the Governed," there will be no need to an hereditary or any other kind of Second Chamber. We have broadened our fram hise to include men and women, and I would prefer to trust the destiny of our nation to the expressed will of the Democracy, rather than allow any small number of men, in any Second Chamber, no matter how wise or educated, or how elected, to stand in the people coing the work they are elected to do.

The Labour Party must watch this question carefully privilege and Monopoly, whether request ited by Peer, Landowner or Capitalist, will not highly surrender the opportunities when the House of Lords has given them to maintain their positions, and the victory which has been achieved by the extension of the Francisco Bill will have been neutralised, unless as democrats we use every force at our command to sweep away the last remaints of an autocratic system, which is the relic of a bygone age.

The extension of the Franchise, and the other electoral changes effected in the Representation of the People Bill make it imperative that the Labour Party should adapt used to the altered circumstances. We stand in the midst of a political and economic system which is perishing. New aims, new aspirations new ideals, are on the horizon, and the Labour Party must be ready to meet the changing conditions. The Representation of the People Bill will effect a revolution in the methods of all political parties. The

Labour Party must be the Party to work out to their juliest the new spirit and the new conditions which this retorm will bring.

The power of Labour has been abundantly proved during the last three and a hair years, and we must we that that power is in reused, and consolidated after the War Labour wisely directed and energetically employed will prove the most potent force in politics for years to come. To evaluate to the full all that these changes mean, we must reorganise and re-constitute our basis as a Party. The Conference will be asked to consider a scheme of reorganisation. It is an ambitious scheme, but not more so than the conditions warrant. It will include the worker, whether by hand or brain, it he accept our constitution. It aims at making our platform vide and broad enough to embrace all who, like Abou Ben Adhem, "love their fellowmen."

We aim in the years to come to be the People's Party a Party not parechial in its conception, but national in its character and broad in its aspirations; constructive in its programme; watching keenly the foreign policy and international relations of the nation; and bringing to the service of the State all that makes for the social and industrial improvement of the people.

In connection with the reorganisation of the Party, let me refer to the entrance of the Co-operative Movement into the political arena, an event not without significance and promise for the future. The Cosoperative Movement has long stood outside politics, and as a result has had to be content with any treatment which has been meted out to it when its interests have been attacked last however, the co-operators have taken action. As a Labour Party, we welcome their action, and hope that the Co-operative Movement and the Labour Party, nationally and locally, will work in close co-operation with each other. The Labour Party and the Co-operative Movement are but parts of the one great Industrial Movement in this country and we must work together. We can help them, they can beip us, and in our constitution as a Party provision is made for their inclusion, either locally or nationally, if so desired. With the Co-operative Movement and the Labour Party working side by side, our united power can be enormously increased to the advantage of both.

This Conference will be the most momentous that has ever been held in the history of the Labour Party. The delegates will be called upon to consider and decide matters which cannot fail to have a far reaching effect on the Party's future. The War will come to an end some time, and the period which will follow will be one of reconstruction. We should be preparing the way for that reconstruction even while War is in progress, so that when hostilities cause, the Labour Party will have a constructive policy on all the great problems which will inevitably arise. The stern rigour of War has taught

the massay Chicago Labors in War has been all important Labors in Female smoot be equally at Typetings and Managery in reach the common the War make the Common to the Mark make the Common to the Mark make the Common to the Common to the Common the Mark make the Common the Mark make the Common to the Common that the Common the Common the Common that the Common the Common the Common that
Whenlest the result are attempt to heavy warrs, and reduce the charlest of the Wanames pour to a larger share to the profitant low a larger control of industry.

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REPORT OF COSTERENCE

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Remainder of the Agenda in order as printed.

Time limit for speakers.

Working Hours.

That movers of Resolutions shall be allowed ten minutes each and succeeding speakers five minutes each, but this may be suspended at the discretion of the Conference.

That the Delegates of the Societies responsible for the following groups of Resolutions and Amendments consult together with members of the Standing Orders Committee with a view to framing composite proposals :-

Food Supplies and Profiteering. Soldiers' Charter and Conditions of Soldiers' and Sailors' Dependents. Conscription of Wealth. Education. Ministry of Health. Housing Workmen's Compensation Act. State Control of Industry and Prices. Conscientious Objectors. Civil Liberties. Voting at Party Conferences. Abolition of the House of Lords. Electoral Reform. Conscription Nationalisation. Local Government Elections. Payment of Expenses of Labour Representatives (War Restrictions) Rent Act, 1915. The Blind.

> A. Bellamy, Chairman. W. THORNE. J. T. BROWNLIE. F. W. BIRCHENOUGH.

H. DUBERY, Secretary.

MR. G. H. STUART BUNNING (Postmen's Federation) pointed out that Mr. Bowen (Postmen's Federation) was a Candidate for the Executive and could not therefore be a Scrutineer. He proposed that Mr. Charles Buller (Postmen's Federation) should take Mr. Bowen's place as Scrutineer.

With this amendment the Report was accepted.

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE.

A DELEGATE asked the reason for the delay in circulating the Executive's Report.

Rt. Hon. ARTHUR HENDERSON, M.P., (Secretary) said that the difficulties with regard to printing and paper had been un-precedented. Everything possible had been done to get the Report out as early as pos-Sible.

MR. E. BEVIN (Dock, Wharf and Riverside Workers) moved :-

That in view of the Executive's Report not having been circulated, consideration of it be deferred until the afternoon Session.

The motion was seconded and agreed to.

NEW PARTY CONSTITUTION.

THE SECRETARY said he desired to submit the recommendations of the Executive with regard to the new Constitution of the Party by moving :-

"That Clause II (Membership) be adopted."

This was the first Clause to which any amendments had been put down. When this motion had been put the Executive recommended that the three resolutions on the previous page, one in the name of the Independent Labour Party, the second in the name of the Railway Clerks' Association, and the third in the name of the Richmond Trades Council, should be taken as amendments. When these had been disposed of the amendment down to the paragraph itself in the name of the Hull Trades Council should then be taken. In submitting the motion he wished to state as briefly as possible the reasons which induced the Executive to proceed to secure not only an amendment of the Constitution but a broadening of the whole basis of the organisation of the Party. It must be obvious to all that this great world conflict had created an entirely new situation. Problems of a social and economic character that had been with them all the years they had been an organised political force had been aggravated and rendered much more acute and much more pressing as a result of the experiences of the past three and a half years. The Executive faced some of these problems and realised that if they had to be dealt with sufficiently drastically to secure remedies-remedies going right down to the roots and almost if not entirely demanding a reconstruction of society it was first of all essential that they should put before the country their programme and at the same time put their house in order so that there might be behind that programme the greatest and most highly-organised political Labour and Socialist force that had ever been organised in the history of the country. The programme had been issued under the title of "Labour and the New Social Order." The evidence at the Head Office-evidence supplied by communications more numerous, more appealing, than ever before experienced

coming from all parts of the counts, and from all classes of the community was a clear demonstration that they was sufficient to be gathered an immense body of opinion which, if it could be followed to the Labour Party - nder proper conditions, would greatly senst in creating the political force to which In had reterred It was no use the Europe tive issuing ampthing in the nature of the programme if was mean talking about book. ing a new social order or recrustructing society, notil they had taken into very ourful consideration their present position in an organised political force. They had done as and came to the maximum overhance that Eabour, as pultically organised in the enerting Circumstances, was altogether included to the great task that has knowleady below it. They had never in the proper terms claimed to be a national postural muty. kindston was intented from the resistant carried at the Trades Union Company in Figure 15 to 1500. They were a political followithin quantities of Trade Union, Socialist hodies and Co-operative focialise. In townt years there had developed what were valled Local Labour Parten. In monte cases the Trades Councils had done the work of the Local Labour Parties, and in other cases they had attempted anythmetion boseving that it was much become to have the our local tody looking after the industrial and political sides of the work II the proposed new Constitution was accepted the Executive intended to develop that idea and, if possible, bring about the amalgamenton of all the Trules Council and Local Labour Parties. But all these admisted becken formed the present Pederation. That here of Delevations had its advantages but it also had very school limitations. Long through the various hyperfections over after year it would be found that the Dadet Council or Local Labour Party might have a conference with the Trade Union branchin to the releation of a candidate and the compaign lainutpd, but as the day of the poll dress near there was asserthing lacking in the torus of organization, namely, that while they were organized as branches they had just pot the beld of the individual members of these branches they ought to have for election success. Therefore, upon examination of the position, they were faced by two possibilities. First, should the whole of the exciting washiney be scrapped and should they begin as sure? Should they have no longer a Pederation and begin to boild up from a new foundation a political organisation depending only spenindividual membership 7. Speaking in an old electronsers he did not read, saying that a he had to begin about that would be the ideal at which he would now. Full they not beginning afresh in the seem that they could afford the moreoupy from to reach the ideal form of organisation, and in view of the above preximity of a Constal Shorton to could imagine no greater mirrake than to attempt to create a new organization based solely upon individual membership. The idea might be worth alroing at led be begod they would not lose their sense of projects to

other arming at the shall flut apart him the printpers of a Centeral Election in sepold he practically impossible for them to adopt such a course. Simples the Executed toying to the Trade Union agen, whose the Party last depended that they had no further use for them. He thought the Contonue would give short skept to such a proposition. Ecoping he mind all the sould and economic problems being the Movement, the Emerators tensioned what was the last thing to its and dealed to which by the Februaries, but to graft on he if, such a lives of combinency. organisation, Related up with the Local Labour Parties or Tueles Councils, as would remove the limitations to which he had retreved, thus belieging the Faderettee and the constituency reproduction lates their contact with the Annual Continues and the Surtoual Envenlive. There was one very special remon who H was essential that more nich unusu should be adopted. The Charman is his address had remained the Controvers at the Bepreaveration of the People Bill. The importance of that INF until not be enaggerated. The last regular made up in rate commissed in road figure Justime electors. The goal register union the new felt could be unclaim about these,our electors. That was a termendous slep forward. What its this number of electors given in comparison with the number requested to the Labour Moonmost? In the debate of the Special Combrems in the proposed Memorial of Frenders and France, belt on the prevents key one speaker had estimated the number at v.500,000, and gastler at a reason. Eggs posing to the take of appropert that their were a proposed in the negativations in the Pedetation and all of them electron bloss. there sum 12,000,000 mitable. The had been asked several times as to liew (as the Emmytive contraspicted going at the heat Greenal Election is the number of cambidates | be bad teen miled if the Employees had despire to sociaate pro candidates. His tryly was that no one had the authority to say that you candidates would be nominated or that they were not going to nominate out take's dated. It did not depend upon the Riscretive but specific confidentials as imported from the political etandpoint. It would be each sigh beyond to the Elecutive at he regarded the conditionales to the level less months under the persent Commission on by give even a remote tileace of those portion to those represented through the sandalates at the next election. He hoped the Johnston would get out at their minds the idea of cacking the second election. Let them con-centrate on the first and if they did right by themselves the serroi and third also turns would take over 16 Committee. It they were going he do their duty at the first shortess. it was imperitive that they should grapple with this new Constitution at once. Most of the delegates know nepeticing about organising one consideracy, but if the new Hill west though there would be secreting like 100 Members in the new Parkassert and they would realise the best imposed byon the fractive and the stall. The provide

principles of the new Constitution ought to be passed at once and the Executive instructed to get on with the work, or they would find that when July came or between the hay and corn harvests that Parliament had been dissol ed and they would be in an election where the polls of all constituencies had to be conducted on one day, and if they had not set their house in order they would pay a temble price for their procrastination Con erence of such a character, however, ought to require no appeal and he would not have said what he had but for the four amendments on the paper. Was there any Party that eaght to be seeking to make its future commensurate with the problems that had to be tackled more than the Labour Party? What were they asking for internationally. They were asking for a People's Peace, broad based upon the will of the people. What were they asking for nationally. They were asking nationally for a reconstruction of society broad based upon the principles of citizenship. (Interruption—"and continued wage slavery.") Unless the citizens were organised they could not free themselves, and one of the tasks of a highlyorganised political Labour Party in a reconstructed society will be to remove wage slavery. If it was essential for them to work for a People's Peace, to revolutionise diplomacy in order that the people might find expression in international life, if it was necessary to try to reconstruct society in order that the workers could be delivered from wage slavery, how was it to be done? Was it going to be done by going to 400 constituencies and saying to the electors:
"You have got votes and we want you to give them to the Labour Candidate, but we won't give you membership in the Labour Party Was that the way to success? Was there a single Labour Member who was prepared to vote for the rejection of the new Constitution and say to the electors in his constituency: "I welcome your vote, but I don't welcome your membership?" If that was a difficulty for the existing Labour Member, what about the men who would be going to new constituencies to appeal for the first time? That was not all. They must not forget the 12,500,000 voters not connected with the Party. It might be possible to go to some constituency where there was no Trades Council and few or no branches of any Trade Union. Agricultural Labourers were anxious to run candidates, and rightly so. He knew of no body of workers that needed proper representation in the House of Commons more than the aid. If they were going to fight it would have to be in agricultural constituencies, and they all knew that Trade Unionism had very little hold upon the agricultural constituen cies; but there was evidence that they wanted Labour candidates. How were these people to be organised? They could only do so by saying to every man and woman who was a citizen—and even if they had not got the vote but were likely to get it—" Come along with us, our platform is broad enough and our Movement big enough to take you all."

That was the way to success. That was the way to get hold of the machinery of Government in this country. They were not going to get it by running 56 or 78 candidates, and 78 was the highest number the Party had ever run. They were only going to get it when they brought their politica machine up to date and offered candidates under proper conditions. When that was done there would be some chance of success. He could not exaggerate the opportunity that would be presented at the next General Election, but he sould imagine someone saying: "Yes, but what about the risk?" No Movement ever gripped a great opportunity without incurring substantial isks. But who were the people who, week in and week out, were pointing out the risks? He supposed many others like himself had been ed certain lite at r. W at was stated in that iterature? "It is not going to be the Trade Union Labour Party if you accept the recommendations of the caucus; you are going to open the Labour Party to all the cranks." He wondered what right those people had to speak about opening a Movement to a'l the cranks, for they had showed their judgment by opening their doors wide enough to take in a noble lord like Lord Beresford and a former Trade Union official like James Seddon. And the unfortunate thing was that at the Conference there would probably be speeches made against the Constitution by Members of the Party who had allied themselves with that new political organisation, and were assisting by the use of their names in gathering in the cranks because that organisation was not particular whether they were cranks or not. If they had votes they were eligible for membership of the British Workers' League. He did not want the delegates to be led away or to allow dust to be thrown in their eyes. He hoped the time would come when there would have to be a choice between the British Workers' League and the Labour Party; but the Executive would have something to say about that later on. He had one more point to put. Were they going to say to the new electors, and especially the 6,006,000 new women electors, most of them wives of working men, that the Party was a Federation, was going to remain a Federation, and they co I anot join the Mo ement except, of course through an affiliated organisation such as the B.S.P., I.L.P., or Fabian Society? He was not challenging the breadth of these Societies but he was dismayed at their numerical strength having · regard to the number of years they had been in existence. He wished them all well. was a member of one, on triendly relations with another, and no one did more to influence the Executive to re-admit the third than he He spoke in all friendliness, but he thought he was right in saying that all told if they had reached a membership of 75,000 this was the outside figure. Were they to wait until all the new electors not connected with a Trade Union had joined one or other of these three organisations? It would be unfair to do so. When a man's wife became

an elector was there anothing once natical them then he should take for to the some point cal meeting and he a member of the some get the warm ist the same again, the as the men the better. It would be a medale to have precede my position organizations They must organize and no piece their rands dates as to give to the present number of the the energy clubes as experiency of voting Labour, not at the sound spetter or the third but at the first the third experience went to show that more people were allowed to get attached to another political organization as would be the take O candidates were not provided at the heat closton they had to be weated away from their allegiance and the work will be deaded hard for the Local Labour Purty, the Names of I sendive and the Head Other. He bound he had not somewhat to induce the desegrates to pass this hest resolution. The Executive proposed to recommend that the conference should go through the first part of the Constitution and a sept the Painting Order. and then the time of the conference most not be taken up by going through a grant a sall amendments on the Local Roles, That would be very especitable, and the Executive would recommend the election of a commotive of 12 Members, 6 representing the Trade Unions and 6 representing the Local Labour Parties, to meet in London with the Executive and see how for the Local Rules could be improved, especially by incorporating any of the assendments on the Arenda. That would be a year h more effective way then submitting matters of so minor a character to the votes of such a great Conference

J. McGurk (Miners Federation) seconded the motion on behalf of the Exerctive. In view of the alteration in the shortegal system if the Executive had not come beward with a proper allowe he left our they would have descried condensation. He was whole-heartedly in favour or the new proposals. In asseral constituences in the county from which he came the very idea in the paragraph believe the Constraint had been acted upon for many years. There were thousands and thousands of people in the country to day who were looking to the Labour Party for impiration and hope and had every intention, if permetted, of belying in the work of the Party and securing the return of Labour Mouters to Patliament. The Party must move with the times. They would be appealing for the spire of the elect. ors, and surely they could not with one-ofency object to their coming into membership of the Party. They should make soon for all those who wanted to come along, and he was says the Local Labour Parties would not be dominated by crucks or people of that true.

The Charlesian and that an important had been handed in which was properly a reference back. If it was force and it must be properly and he properly and he properly to take it as soon as the Conterpose resumed.

The Conference then adjourned for lunch.

He Conference present at two which.

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That the minit presents of the Commission in express? Such to the applicated function, and that a Complement be called at an easily date (maily in according the game)

He had all the benefits pero going livings athenuse times and it was next didn't than in morned there to keep the munders or smark with the business of the Movement. He 25d not done to attach any blams to the Executive. The Constitution had been in the hand all allitated facinities for a consists and to had to admit that there regld to have been solicions may be them to complet it. His was not going to may a ringly word against the proposity; he would adout the brattle of every word Mr. Hernlymon had need as to the ascensity day widening the Constitution of they more to net up a rigily successful Labour, Revenuest, He agreed that the new Countriction reight to be family ratified at the excited possible money and every week and possels now was of the attenut importance to the labor waysen. of the Meremont, but there was penething which might be pure diagreems than felar and that was the rooting of the Countricion without full complexation by the addished bodes. The Masse wished to assist the Executive and the Farty in the adoption of an intelligent and broad Constitution They were particularly actions about the better sunsen of the new Movement about to be isombol, but they were in the artisticals posting that the question had not been considered in their descripts. He man not moving for slider live like purpose of killing the effort which had from made to estal lish a new Committedian, just morely in arrive that it small go tack to the dispute. so enabling their mondates to seeint in framing a Constitution which would really be of great occase to the Movement. Peans. ally he tolt that two or three months signifnot be through away if they sould utinizely have scrything like enuments. They were all aiming 21 the father greenment of the country by the simucracy. If they were going to An that they neglit to take the demastocy into their southbrane and have their entirence in the training of the Countrieston. He statement thought that it by a little delay they needl secure the full convent of the rank and the they would be trong a good thing rather than a had thing. For the nike of solderity and unity in the Movement he appended his an adjustment for all ions two months to make these to policie the matter.

Ma J. W. Occurs (Chined Pretille Factory) Workers's exceeded and the sended to assure the Empirical State of the American Committee that he said as to us because it because y They had not the single-level approximation so far as the principles are a constraint and would not afternoon the name of the State of the Sta

the proposals. They might make a mistake in attempting to hurry the matter and it would be better to delay it for two months so that they might give it full consideration and probably be able to give entire support to the Executive.

MR. W. C. ANDERSON, M.P. (Independent Labour Party) said he thought it would be a great misjortune if the difference between taking the vote that day and the next was going to decide the issue. For his part he saw no reason why the debate should not take place that day and the vote the next if by that means it were possible to reach a better decision. This was a matter of grave urgency and of vital importance to the Party. It would make a real difference to the fortunes of the Party if the matter was held up for the next three or four months or more than that. He was not arguing that the proposals of the Executive were the final form of Labour Party organisation; he was not arguing that in the future amendments in this or that direction ought not to be moved in order to consolidate what had been done. The proposals were only the minimum and far more could be done. to postpone consideration now meant throwing the Labour Party organisation out of gear in days that were bound to make history. From that standpoint and knowing that there was no miner or textile worker present who did not desire to advance the interests of the Labour Party he would ask them to believe that they might be striking a blow which least of all they desired to strike if they insisted upon holding up this question for months to come. They were living through grave times. The Labour Party could not live in its past; it could not be bound by past forms of organisation; there was bound to be a change. The change that was asked was simply that those who wished to help the Labour Party should be able to come in and help in local organisation. It was said that if this were done cranks and adventurers might come in, and Mr. Sexton had said that there were cranks in now. If a ballot vote were taken on the question as to who were cranks there might be astonishing results as to those who would be at the top of the poll! It was no good flinging out statements of that kind. There would always be danger of frauds inside Socialist and Trade Union organisations, Democracy itself must deal with the frauds; democracy must make up its mind whether a man is straight or not. In the last resort the thing that mattered was a man's outlook, a man's class of mind, a man's sincerity and honesty of purpose. Class was necessarily the basis of all industrial organisations, but in regard to great political principles and ideals it was the class of mind that was the important Sometimes they could find in the ranks of the workers a man who was reacttionary and conservative of mind and opposed to all Labour political principles, and sometimes they could find outside those ranks a man who was fighting for the same aims as those of the Labour Party. He wished to

see a great Movement built up. The time had come for making the Labour Party a National Purty; the time had come for saying what the great mass of the people were saying now: that the old parties were dead and done for, that the old rulers stood con-demned, and that democracy had got to come into its own. There must be built up a new diplomacy and a new spirit brought into politics. There must be built up a new Internationalism, stronger than ever, and they must insist upon the power of the future not being in the hands of Kaisers, Crown Princes, Kings and rulers. The workers all over the world were going to take affairs into their own hands and work out their own salvation. He did not believe that the proposed Constitution was the last word in organisation. He believed it was the first word in organisation, urgent, vital and necessary, and by rejecting it now they would be hurting the Party. "There was necessary, and by rejecting would be hurting the Party. a tide in the affairs of men which, taken at the flood, led on to fortune." Upon that full tide they were now floating and they must take the current when it served or else lose their fortune. He appealed to the delegates to support the proposals of the Executive.

MR. J. SEXTON (Dock Labourers) said he was of opinion that the Constitution was was of opinion that the Constitution was sufficiently broad to let anybody in who wanted to come in. Under the proposed new Constitution the only thing left appeared to be the name of the Labour Party. There were avenues enough open to any man wishing to join the Labour Party. There were the I.L.P., the B.S.P., the N.U.T., the Co-operative Societies and the National Union of Journalists. There were all these avenues open to any man who wished to join, and if any of them were not respectable enough there was still the brains of the movement in the Fabian Society. Mr. Henderson talked about the cranks in the British Workers' League. He would remind those who objected to the British Workers' League that if anybody was responsible for its existence it was the cranks inside the Labour Party. Nothing had been said about the cranks in the U.D.C. and the Council of Civil Liberties avowedly opposing the policy of the Labour Party.

MR. G. OLIVER (Newcastle L.R.C.) said it was all very well to argue in the region of generalities, but what were they to do in Newcastle with four constituencies instead of two, with thousands of young men who had no political allegiance up to date, with the women who were enfranchised for the Were their early loves to be first time? exploited in the interests of the other parties? If the Constitution was not altered these young men and women would be garnered in by the other parties. What was happening in Europe to day was making Labour politicians by the thousand. There were new conditions and new hopes, they were in the presence of new responsibilities; and, to quote the Scriptures, "the fields are white with the harvest." Where were the reapers?

Me A G Warners I was Chris-supported Mr. Scattler assessment but a in any sense of hunting to the ofeas put believe the Conference by Mr Howlinson His Union betped to deserte Trades consule and Local Parise and therefore may as much concerned as any body to see the Party founds and in yours, but In thought it would be agreed that Mr. Hendarane and other speakers but epaded the crox of the question so far as the Trade Unions were consecuted. Not a word had been said along the proposed ellings in the Contribution of the National Complier. That was the paid he wanted the Emerative to reconside. He was extundy to brouge of broadening the book, and he was not afraid of running or of the bossess. Let flow all come and take so regral closes. in the Carles one will asselve. That was his position and if the delegates would be referring the whole thing lack they would not be killing the propose's. The question at the Constitution and how the organizations would be affected was an important matter. In some articles he had read the rack and file al the Trade Canna were spoken of in a contemptuous manner. Lyon amiocost Trade Unions) had to pay his political levy he he would not be represented at the Contercome. Had any Party, however old or well congaring, got a better immedation than the a 900,000 subernibers to the Party? Had the Tories or Liberale 2,300,000 paying suberribers J. And could they hope to do say good with the Labour Party II they were unfair to the Trade University | There was a good political revival taking place throughout the ranks of the Trade Union The purely reductrial Tends Unionist had bed to recognise that Parliamentary matters were of importance to the workers, and care should be taken to turn this revival to advantage.

Mr. T. E. Navious (London Switzer) Compositors) said the question sate whether they were going to delay consideration of the new Constitution by a reference back to the Executive. This was not the first time the Miners' Federation had pleaded for delay for no other emison than that in their opinion they had not had sufficient apportunity to consult their assurbers. The proposed amondment of the Constitution had been public lies the last several results, and if the Mineral Pederation had not had an opportunity of consulting their rank and file the fault --he with the Federation and not with the Labout Party Exposition, Mr. Healtreen had been up and down the country explor-ing the Constitution, and became of that propaganda both the Conservative and Life eral arganizations were doing their best to undormine the contien of the Labour Piety. Nothing would give the press greater pleasure than to report that the Conference had held up the question and raised possible believe by delay. The rank and the sure quite ready for the new Countriation. Trade Union ists were not being torood to do anything. In was not proposed to lay it down that every trees must become a member to the Party : It was samply amy ht to make it possible for any man to woman to san the Party of he or the married

Lalacet Thete; said the nature of the properiod things was not the loss at the assessed. It was the posts to converse insure as to whether the question should be decided now as perspected indefeatable. The motion had been moved by Mr. Smille. Less than a mostle age at a Lideor Porty Conferency in Lember Mr. Smille typewal an assessment of a properly smaller character. It was then proposed that the years business below the Conference should be postpoord to further constitution by the mendoon. Mr. Smills rypored that became at the segreey of the mother. That matter was argued; this matter now below the Conference, was equally unpeat. Mr. Smille admitted that it would at least to two or them morelle linkers the adjusted Onlysics rould in hid. The General Election was going to must within the real five, all or were months. Was it to be said at the Labour Party as had been said of the Government owing to be mumanagement of the War | Always ton late ? The question of the Constraint was one of the graced arguing, and he was instructed to my on infall of the LLP, that they would be no purty whatever in hindering tuck a successive advention to the Courtyntion to would enable the Farty to gain the peaked penalty seath, for Labout and Nunctice at the most famous Election, He was delighted to speak on a measure of this character because it brought them buck to the old putted atmosphere of prawar town. They usual discuss the matter actuated only by a ferror to peak the Latinia Morrowood the most polest and prevalid intropped for the salvandorment of the people of this resultry in the tubed beant, He agreed with everything He. Houseown that said as to the ideal of a description party, and he agreed too that it was not excitable at the mount, to allowed by reconstruct the Labour Party apon periodly the inex. The i.L.P. in parting the question or the paper list aux the air with the expects stime of griding it adopted by the Contentue. It was put down we that there might be on record a standard of adopt towards which the proposale now made by the Executive would in the test great step. Now, however, that this motion for delier had been brought below the Conference, the LLP. begged the Contravage to mortion all also so that the recommendations of the Darcolder. might be approved and the delegates vetars by their conditionality and set to work at once to companies the Party on the new lane. Let the General Electron cross when it may they would find in the test Finlament a great presental united Labour Purty competent to deal with the great work at industrial and metal recombination which was smomtary.

Mr. T. State (Channel Toptile Partney Von kerts and he wished to state that the Textile Workers, in the except of the question her professional local local, when prefer the profession are the more They was believed and question as to offers and her one lady completed the question, Name Labor.

any organisation of a large character which did not send in for the pamphlet in suthcient time had not the proper opportunity of submitting the Constitution and amendments to their members. He believed the business would be done best by arring every organisation the right to put forward am mi ments and discuss the proposals. It was said that the question was very urgent and they were led to believe that there must be hundreds of thousands of men and women ready to tumble into the Movement as individual subscribers at once; but what class of men and women were they r. Were they a class that would loyally accept what the Labour Party had Lud down as its ultimate aim or were they not? If they were not, he did not want them. If they were they had any number of opportunities of becoming members. He had read the Constitution ery carefully and he would give just one point. In one town of ro,000 inhabitants there was a Society of 6,000 members that Society would have hee delegates on the Local Lubour Party. Forty men and women coming as individual subscribers could out vote the five representing 6,000. Let them consider the position as men who desired to see the Party grow in a sale way, not by attracting every disgrunded Liberal and Tory they could find, but by attracting men and women who really believed in the Party. He was doing local political work when Mr. Henderson was gaining his valuable experience in the Liberal Party. He had as keen a desire as any man on the platform to see the Labour Party grow and thrive, but grow and thrive by its own strength. He did not want to see the manipulator and wirepuller in it. He wanted men with a clear idea of what they were after, loval to the Party, and working to-

MR EGERTON P. WAKE (Barrow Labour Party) said he thought the main principles which Mr. Henderson and other speakers bad outlined in support of the Constitution remained unanswered and unchallenged, and the statements in support of the postponement were more or less concentrated upon the minor details of the Constitution which, if the Constitution was to be dealt with, would be entirely dependent upon the will of the Conference. It had been said that affiliated organisations had had no adequate opportunity of considering the matter, but there was no guarantee that if it was postponed the organisations or their members would have any more adequate opportunity, The pamphlet containing the new proposals was issued to the affiliated organisations in November, and by December 15th amendments were received from at least twenty affiliated organisations. Therefore, despute their industrial activities, some organisations had found time to give their attention to making their political organisation keep pace with their industrial interests. It was true that most of the organisations that had sent in amendments were Trades Councils and Local Labour Parties; but if there was any

avenue by which the rank and file did get a chance of considering these problems is was very largely through the Trades Councilt and Local Labour Parties, and if these todies had been able to hold special conferences to which representatives of the Trade Unions were invited there had been adequate opportunity for discussion of the Constitution. The experience of those responsible for the Constitution was that throughout the rank and hie there was an eager deare that the Constitution should be put into force at the earliest possible moment. The bacoutive urged the delegates to realise that they were facing an urgent situation, and, if they wanted the new spirit of industrial activity to find adequate political expression, to help in considering the proper torm of political organisation.

MRS. FAWCETT (Federation of Women Workers) said she was rather surprised to find an intelligent organisation like the Miners' Lederation having to admit that they had not yet considered the recommendations of the Executive. That was not the fault of the Conference or of the Executive. The Executive had stated that a great issue was at stake, inasmuch as an electron might come at any moment. Her Trade Union had not only been educated on Trade Umon matters, they had also been educated on political matters. They had not just merely made their Trade Union a Union where they dropped in a penny and expected to pake out a shilling! They had been trying to show their womenical that political action must go hand in hand with industrial action. Mr. Henderson had said that the women would be influenced by their husband. She hoped they would not. She hoped the women would lead them into something races basinesslike, something bigger and greater and more uplifting for the whole of humanity than the men had done in the past. She hoped the Conference would pass the Con-stitution. They ought to be doing what the National Federation of Women Workers was doing-sending into the constituencies women organisers, because if they depended on the men they would never get the women

Mr. Smillie's amendment was put and there voted.

and it was declared carried.

MR. GEORGE LANSBURY (Poplar Trades Council) moved :-

That the adjournment of consideration of the Constitution be for the period of one month.

He thought that a month would be sufficient time for the Unions to consider the matter. The other parties were working night and day, and if the delegates were in earnest about the new Constitution it ought to be ratified as speedily as possible.

MR. WILL THORNE, M.P. (General Workers) seconded the motion, which was put and declared carried.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTE.

Her Report of the Lambday was taken paragraphs by puragraphs

DUTE I SATIONAL

The Contracts and that on the paragraphs mades that handles he associated Mr. Handle and to move, on hetalt of the horsested, a resolution on Prince.

Me A HESSTERM PROPERTY, moved the

That this Conference enforced by the organization political to the Labora Party

- for Balances the electronical at he if or Almia made by the Article Press Mystakes and Frankleys Balance to a par of they are in discourse while the Hard Almia of the Region Labour Marchanes, and made for an income after and Termination Press.
- (b) Person the Alited Congruences to Severalab and publish at the parties persons successed a feeled plantament of the War class to have many with the above
- (i) Appears the averagement made for the hilling of a facilier Fortherms of the Estern and Somalist Plantes of the Allied Nations in London, on the Allied Nations in London, on the Plantes of Postick Labour and the rion of secting at a graced appropriat among such Parties.
- [6] Calls infroit the analong plant representative of the Country Process to distinguished the Real Process to distinguished the Real Process and to reflect the Congruential Street on India Administrative of the Real Process for the decisionality of 400 Me Process processes of 400 Me Process processes of 500 Me Process processes of the Real Process processes of the Real Process processes of the Real Processes Proc
- (r) If manying that is ground arresonal time to descript of the the Ladone and Section Product of the the Ladone and Control of the the Ladone and threat that the the the the the the the threat threat th

That a series (a few and of the France)

He said the manager of a second of the Parks
Continuous fact also by the Jelegono to the Trades Coop Congress Art Shekard & tory Arterio decision was touched. They half two moving along the flow flow men down, and not a youth that War Steen the most hid have not spend. They had not arranged, so the von-tietle mated, life in ligaraged Continues to be held in Legalita on Sixtuary and Arrests assemble to the emission were to be proposed and in the respected at the Parceton flow smertterritor, would spell the others of the employees as If it were amended to could be hope by mal that It had the support of the Parliament tody Committee of the Harden Plants I require the thought there was more being man beperiod than trying at get this and may on one point or another, and that were to the left effect is regarded failure and Switches on this country might be formula to hear open the Labour and Smildlet Moraposts in all the beligness country, and more reposited that the cut weight of these sufference regard for benegits to bear some our cuts directment test the temperature or thrulink reaction. The round pringuish of the resolution requested the Affird Convenments to interplate and publish at the excises: War size. He note the spiniss only attempty that the War had been undergonerie producted by security of the extent deposit. the part was or eight econducto reaso the Wa-Asses of the alimi coveries, and repetally by state these man when combitions live magn-Nation were stood more proposite than they note and it they was to make a because in money again it would not be bringht about when the Ailled Sovernmonn. hed made it sammaterality that they DRAW WERE ARREST MOTOR ACTIVE REPORTED WHEEL the competitions startment made in Proti-Appl. Wilson and such the biar hors on the Ontain Labour Marrowant. His hoped three would be my disappressent on the runt personals. The fourth paragraph color open the working class organizations to the Control Possers tredering thing War Asso. J. was desired that their War Asso should be pict alongside the Prittin Nas Alon. J. within paly he when they sould place then under by male that they would now that let you rate Ma golf between them had been toolthems believe to partity them to pertur toop to lack and trying to beserve supplied ing differences. Lastly in the event of the the marketing label (for they should being all their paint infrance to hear agen, all the Governments experied to after Sellings for an indespression Concession. now to have a People's Peace-and the fullary would not be geargefund without it they would have to be them to my that it was citation. It would be a motale if the working alone improvestations did not load they Conterms questionly with my they must have toolities, and they had given the Coverageout & committee because Blockbelow had been taken out and Twitzerland

put in its place. They did not care where it was held but the somer it was held the better provided all the conditions were complied with. He had pleasure in moving the resolution.

Mr. J. RAMSAY MACDONALD (Treasurer) seconded the resolution on behalf of the Executive. When British Labour's War Aims had been published there were certain Government official declarations made. That was not enough. The Governments were not fighting separately, they were fighting in alliance. They wanted therefore to understand what the position of the Alliance was, and they were asking the Allied Governments to state together and jointly whether they did, or did not, agree with what Mr Lloyd George and First out Wisson had stat 1 in so far as their statements were in accordance with Labour's document. During the past iew weeks there had been somewhat sinister societ treaties published. Those secret treaties were not in accordance with Labour's War Arms nor with the pledges given to the men who joined the Colours. They were not in accordance with the statements made by the leaders of the country when they entered the War. The resolution specifically asked the Alhed Governments if they were going to keep faith with the soldiers, with their own people and with their national honour. It they were they must revise those secret treaties and publish a joint declaration in accordance with the resolution. The resolution went still further. When that had been done they would not get such a democratic Peace through the Governments alone as they would get if before official negotiations were opened up the people through their representatives had declared their aims, their intentions and their agreements. Therefore the resolution asked for an International Conference. The Prime Minister had stated that this was " new diplomacy. Of course it was. He would like to see and hear the old diplomacy lift up its head in a Labour Conference like this and say that it had so justified itself that it was not going to allow any new forces to come into international affairs! Could the delegates imagine the absurdity of such a thing? This old diplomacy, this old method of communication between countries through the narrow channels of the Foreign Office and the Diplomatic Services now literally in ruins, coming to this Conference, coming to the Labour and Socialist Movement and saying: "You be dumb while we speak; you be quiescent while we act: we have brought you into this mess, and trust us alone to bring you out of it and to make you secure against it in the time to The absurdity of such a thing must be so striking that even Lord Hugh Cecil himself must confess he was wrong when he misrepresented the Party in the House of Commons the other day. He appealed to the Conference not merely to pass the resolution but to pass it with such unanimity as would show our Government and enable our Government to tell its Allies that whilst yielding nothing in moral and political ideals

which were placed before us in this War the working classes were going to see to it that they spoke directly to the peoples of the other nations, and that the Peace when it did come would embody the people's interests, desires and spirit.

The Chairman said that as the resolution was an agreed one to carry out the policy that was commenced at Blackpool he wished to appeal to the LLP,, who had sent in amendments, to withdraw them and so obtain absolute unanimity upon the resolution.

Mr. J. Bruce Glasier (I.L.P.) said his organisation was not insensible to the appeal for the withdrawal of the amendments. Might he explain in a word why they wished the amendments? They felt it to be most important that a declaration should go from the Conference to the Trade Unionists and Socialists throughout the world, but the declaration should be based upon the democratic view of War Aims in this country, and not upon any statement made by Mr. Lloyd George or any other member of the Government. They should rely upon their own efforts and not upon capitalist Governments.

THE CHAIRMAN asked if he was to understand that the amendments were withdrawn, and

MR. GLASIER replied in the affirmative.

Mr. Robert Williams (National Amalgamated Labourers' Union) said he thought the attention of the Conference ought to be called to the recent Conference on Man Power. Mr Lloyd George came there with Sir Auckland Geddes to ask lavours from the working classes, but in spite of that, Mr. Lloyd George was contemptations made by working-classer-presentations made by working-classer-presentatives. Any man with a discriminating mind, reading the published statement and the answers given by the Prime Minister. could only draw one conclusion and that was that although the Labour Movement through its representatives asked that facilities should be given for an International Conference, Mr. Lloyd George treated the questions with absolute contempt

MR. J. SEXTON (interrupting) said: "That is not true."

Mr. Williams (continuing) said it was time the Labour Movement made up its mind and spoke with one voice. They had been told time and time again that although British Labour and the British Government might state their War Aims they would not be allowed to pass through the German censorship. What assurance had they that German War Aims would pass through the British censorship? If the Labour Party were not prepared to take action in demanding passports the rank and file would take action for themselves.

The resolution was put and agreed to unanimously.

ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE.

Mr. A. Hastington Secretary moved the following resolution standing in the same of the Law stive

The National I would of the Party, the I treasurer and National Product of the Party, the I treasurer and National Party I to National I to Na

He said that in view of the decision to adjoint time beating of the Contribution for one mostly the sooner blay know whether this resolution was going to be carried or not, the better, because if it was not going to be carried arrangements would have to be made accordingly.

The resolution was seconded, and agreed to

JOINT WORKING WITH THE PARLIA-MENTARY COMMITTEE OF THE TRADES UNION CONGRESS

Consideration of the Executive's Report was resumed, and on the paragraphs under the above heading,

MISS MARGARET BONDSHID (Federation of Women Workers) does attention to the statement that, "there is now a standy development in the direction of each Commiffice remitting to past consideration, the more important matters that rouse before them which affect the Labor Movement in its while aspects. She asked whether they could be assured that these paint assuferences were taking the direction of differentiation is functions and not a development in the direction of dual control. She did not ask the question in any critical sport. She welcomed progress and felt that anything which tended he a better understanding was entirely to be supported and encouraged, but her organization did wish to be accord that the development was in the direction of differentiation of function to persont year lapping rather than dual control as had been illustrated, he example, in the residies on Peace. Three had not been in a position to truck a resilition on a matter affected the Labour Party because there was an agreement with the Padiamentary Commatter. She was not saying that in this instance it was not the best thing to do, lot they could to know where they were going

Me Hastenson and that Me I had put the poston the La action and They were energ to try to accomposite they were not point to large any aspective functions at the Labour Foreign as they were not going to appet the Labour Lunion Congress or its Pullane to the Congress of the party to mittee to foreign the plants.

with the Congress and its work. The resolution on Pince was just a puring place and its examination and the continuous and puring the Confession was a justification for their trying to remain together and whose they make taken common action on a great world specific.

Hr. How. J. H. Taronna, M.P. Distingal Union of Harbourness; sold the elabourness of Man Stoutherl, and the Dombourn were absolutely contrary to the decision of the Parkagementary Committee on the purticular resolution, and so a monder of the Parke. resulting Committee for som not going to let them for no-habenged. The Fudamentary Committee diditionally distilled that they would not be party to that quelifies propolicing the independence of their opened on any malier us the Aprelia. The Furiamentary Committee was point to amount shelf jointly with the resistance. It pointed not at once that if it hid it might have the effect of rading and rections standing in the states of shirpairs who were seld to more them. For that very resem the Pachamertun Committee decided that the instice just carried must be exhautted on the authorsy of the Labour Party Remetive alone and not of the Parliamentary Committee. If was only fair to pake the position alter-to-that there should be no moundershood

NATIONAL AGENT'S REPORT.

* On this Report

Mr. Fonter Witness (Rational Assessment Labourers' Union) artest whether the National Agent was ettle commented with the Georgement War Asses Committee.

THE CONDERS SAID the survey sys " No."

NORWHILD BY E-ELECTRON.

Consuming H. E. Witness (Workship

that the paragraphs under the business of "Norwick Dev Birchine" he selected back.

He said he wished to draw the attention of the Conberges to what happened at the byshorten when Mr. Staberto took a position in the Covernment, mornishing his melting so-diction. They seemed a tologram from Mr. Makerta stating that tills was become and using whether the Trades (report) and Labour Expressioning Commerce but any views upon the marine. They at most color a joint meeting of both books to consider the position and a resolution was carried by of Mr. Roberts. A computer was an own beyond to comider the position in face or that rendships and a bringing was sent to the Boat Office soling to be provided with another Candidate. A reply was removed that that small got be done, that He Penna, the Agent, was in the complement, and the realled was in her basels. The affection of the Empetive was then spilled to the breach of the Constitution in leading the Agent or support of a Cambidate who had not represed

the approval of a conference of affiliated bodies in the constituency. And some time the Executive invited a deputation from the I railes to un il to meet a sub-committee of the Executive. He and a colleague met that sub-committee and the latter urged that the Executive had no idea of the difference existing between the Labour representatives in Norwich and Mr. Roberts, and that at the time the telegram was received they had no opportunity of getting together to discuss the position. They argued that the case was without precedent, and that there was nothing in the Constitution to meet such a case. The explanation of the sub-committee on that point was accepted and the deputation pressed their claim that Mr. Roberts, having been repudiated by the Labour organisations in the constituency, should not remain a Member of the Labour Party in the House of Commons They argued that as Mr. Roberts could not remain a Member of the Party, and as he had received an invitation to enter the Government because of his membership of the Party, he could no longer remain in other as a Cabinet Minister representing Labour opinion. The Executive afterwards sent a deputation to meet the Trades Council and coincided with the Council on the lines just related; but now the Executive were urging in this Report that the Constitution should again be departed from and a poll taken of the members in the Trade Unions atthated to the Council. Did the Executive urge the Parliamentary Party that a ballot should be taken of the rank and file when the Party entered the Government without consulting the Movement? Had the Trades Council any power to take a ballot vote of members of the organisations amhated to it? It would be a piece of unwarrantable impertinence to suggest to any Trade Union Branch how they should conduct their business. He asked the Conference to support the Norwich Trades Council and help to purge the Labour Movement of men who have been more reactionary than the worst Tories.

Mr. J. Sexton (Dock Labourers) seconded, but for a different reason altogether. If the Executive was right and the Norwich Trades Council was wrong the Executive ought to have had the courage of their convictions. The whole thing was a reflection upon Mr. Roberts. There had been complaints about the British Workers' League opposing Labour Candidates He sympathised with those complaints, but was no blame to be attached to the men who were deliberately opposing Roberts and others because they were carrying out Labour policy . That was the whole secret of it. The wording of the Report was utterly wrong. It did not support Mr. Roberts. It stated that the I xecutive had no alternative but to continue the approval given to Mr. Roberts' candidature.

A DELFOATE asked whether in the event of the Rejort being received back the resolution on the Agenda would not be taken.

THE CHAIRMAN replied that the resolution world not be taken.

MR. EGERTON P. WAKE, speaking on behalf of the Executive, said they would all be agreed that the Norwich situation was a very unfortunate and difficult one for the Executive to deal with. Mr. Sexton's statement in seconding the motion seemed to b m to have been answered by the speech of the mover. He thought it was necessary that the Conference should understand exactly the history of the Norwich question First of all, the Conference must remember that the political truce was in operation. The Conference on at least two occasions had confirmed the policy of the Party joining the Government, and it was arising out of that policy and in consequence of it that Mr. Roberts entered the Ministry and had to seek re-election. The Constitution did not refer to bye elections at all, and certainly when the Constitution was framed such a bye election arising out of such circumstances was never contemplated. Therefore an appeal to the Constitution tell to the ground. Executive had to deal with the whole position in relation to the circumstances. When the writ for Norwich was issued and the matter reported to the Executive they had had no intimation whatever of the decision come to by Labour in the constituency. If the Norwich Trades Council and Labour Party desired the Executive to take any action surely it was their duty, having regard in the interests of Labour to the strength of the Party in the House of Commons, to have communicated officially with the Executive long before the eve of a bye-election. In accordance with the political truce and in accordance with the policy adopted by the Annual Conference, the Executive instructed the National Agent to go to Norwich and take all the necessary steps to secure the return of Mr. Roberts. He submitted that in the position in which the Executive were placed there was no alternative. As a matter of fact, it would have been a gross dereliction of duty had they not so acted. The meeting of the Trades Council and Local Labour Party was called two days after the issue of the writ and the arrival of the Agent in the constituency. Then he understood that Mr. Roberts, who after all was the sitting Labour Member, had not been invited or rather had been refused a hearing at that meeting, although an appeal was made to the meeting to adjourn in order that Mr. Roberts might have an opportunity of appearing before the delegates. The resolution repudiating Mr. Roberts was sent almost on the eye of the election and it was followed up the next day by a most amazing request that the Executive should provide Norwich with a Labour "Minority" Candi-The official list of Candidates was available for the Norwich Labour bodies, and so far as the Executive were concerned there was no distinction as between "Majority" Candidates and "Minority" Candidates. Agreement was eventually come to with the Trades Council that in the circumstances there had been no breach of the Constitution. The Executive agreed that there must be a complete democratic choice of Candidate

let a 1 of l'aits but at the same time the people in whose hands enforcement is execut munt have some regard to national interests and to other interests involved. There were the interests of the Toule Union which had teen have ing the conditionary and over in agreement with Mr. Hoberto' stitute, and when a Trade Union has spent morely upon a constituency, while not civil; the torus a perpetual mortage on it, it is a lat a right to luministation. The Executive also left that in the case of a Labour Monter who had not for something like ten years in a constituency before such as act of repudiation took place they were entitled to know whether the votes of designing rightly represented the mind and will or the Labour electors in the combitments. Therefore the trades council and Libert Porty were requested to use a democratic pathod of proved among the lasts. The could not anderstand the opposition of the Trade Council to taking a ferror late and highly home able way id referring themselves of a very serious difficulty and thereby straightening out a matter who he might cause moderable difficulty in the fature

It was moved, seconded and agreed to .-

That the question he will ful

The motion for reference back was then put and there voted

Ton 1882 0000 Against 1,492 0000

and it was declared lent

DP111SH WORKERS' LEAGUE

Mr. J. SEXTON (Dock Labourers) asked whether any attempt had been made to deal with those Members of Parlament and recommendate positions who in the Lineau of Democratic Control and the Council of Civil Laborties had defied the policy of the Parlament

ME A HENDERSON Secretary in reply sed that no action had been taken as a set those Members of the Party who were more hers of the British Workers League north declared their intention of running a resisiderable number of Candalates, and proceed od to place some of those Candidates in constituencies held for years by the Labour Party. They had always bud to draw a distinction between a propaganda eventuation and an organisation entering into competition and becoming a rational positical party When the Executive clarified to take action all the action was this. They sent to all the Mombers or the Labour Party who appeared to be helding any position in the British Workers Laupee as in amazina that attention had been drawn to the artice. of the League by a letter from the Misses Federation That comments were asked upon that letter Replies cases in most cases In three cases the reply was that swing to illus action on the part of the Louges the individuals concerned had withdrawn from the Larger. In our or few atting cases the intimation was that the multipy was still under passideration. It was her that Complement by consider how for it was consistent with the Constitution and policy of the Porty for any of the Montana oven to address their manus to be used, if by the our of these mesons greater networks e.g. to be given to any political purty that legan to qualifying a most by mentioning opposition publical arms by mentioning opposition cambilities.

Mr. Hannest force (Miner) Federation and the Continuous bad nothing to its sens the Bushish Workers League as no sequencies, hat when it cause up against the Payro politically they had no procussor a vertice on it. In Vortation the Minery had no part down a constitution y and procused to part flows a Labour Cambridge, and then the finition Workers' Langue had the aminosity to put down in reposition one of the Miner's new new men the hoped the Continuous would request the spining about the Langue to pursuancy this language.

Mr. Stronger Warm, M.F. (Misson) Federation; said he sends him to my a word at he did not wait to plots any responsbility. It was perfectly true that he had been a Vice-Promised of the Bullack Workers Laugue and End taken port in the propagatella of the Laupus, but the whole of the perguguids in which he had required was structly in accordance with the dictains of Continues. The smeal and participant method of dealing with a Member of Partiament against whose actions unexplaint was made note from of all that he should be given a chance of asserting before the Empeloy is a sounded or indictment properly framed; secondly, that If his conduct was not appalled a social every explination he should be reported to the affiliated organisation, and that then open the statement made by him to the athliants organisation, includingly or otherwise, action should be laken. There had been no yourplaint on the part of an affiliated organization with regard to the actions of Perpisse Walch. A lidder was read to him posterior not that the Executive of the Minor Polevalors. could not understand his consection with the Lingue and stating that they result ide to have a levelly class with too. He met the Enumers and piped the whole position fully betters there." He promused to give the fallest constitution to the representathose then made to heel, and it open conshiftened on the best of a letter by bed seek in replaceble they were of opinion that he could not be retain his mendarology he would not accordtagly at mon- It the Employed of the Labour Party canal to figure a organism apon which has conduct neight be pulped and permitted him to reply be would be perpared to scoops their thermist. He would take the decrease of other the Labour Party Eastern or the Executive of the Winery Federation. What positive action had be been guilty of I He had percer in his the opened by tipe against a Labour Cambridge "He half taken

no positive action of any kind against any man in the Party. What negative action had he taken? His name had appeared on a sheet, and possibly the publication of his name had given a superficial and shallow importance to the League which it would not otherwise have possessed. But he had never attended a meeting, and he would come out when the constituted authority said so; not when irresponsible delegates at the Conference said so, but if they were to be a properly constituted body they must accept the decisions of the constituted Executives. With respect to the particular case of the Yorkshire Miners' Federation, he had no more knowledge of it than the child unborn. He wrote at once to the effect that he was perfectly satisfied the British Workers' League would not contest any seat that had been decided upon by the Yorkshire Miners' Association or the Labour Party. He would do his very best to destroy the League if it fought Candidates put forward by the Labour Party. The Miners' Executive had given him a hearing, but the Labour Executive never had. They had framed no indictment but had simply asked what remarks he had to make. Let them charge him and give him a hearing, and he would obey their decision.

MR. A. HENDERSON (Secretary) said the reason why Mr. Walsh was not invited to come before the Executive was that they were informed that the Miners' cases were being dealt with by the Miners' Federation Executive, and until the Miners' Executive had dealt with them his Executive did not think it wise to go any further.

Rt. Hon. John Hodge, M.P. (British Steelsmelters) said he was one of those who received a letter from Mr. Henderson, and the position he took up was very much the same as that taken by Mr. Walsh. His reply was that if he had committed any breach of the Constitution of the Labour Party the course was plain: report him to the amliated organisation of which he was a member. But it seemed to him to be a rather curious thing that it was only those men who had been in favour of the prosecution of the War who had been pointed at at the Conference. A great deal had been said about cementing the ranks of Labour and going forward with one voice, but there were at present two parties in the House of Commons. There was one section of the Party that had separated itself and was sitting on the opposite side of the House. What had the Executive done with them? Had they been called to book?

THE CHAIRMAN (interrupting) said he hoped Mr. Hodge would confine himself strictly to the question of the British Workers' League.

MR. HODGE (resuming) said that when the Executive gave fair play all round they would have a case. Might he point out—

THE CHAIRMAN said he must ask Mr. Hodge not to charge the Executive with not being fair all round. They had endeavoured to do their duty fairly all round.

Mr. Hodge said that in the reply he received from the Secretary it stated that the Executive had no desire to charge him with a violation of the Constitution.

Mr. Henderson (interrupting): If Mr. Hodge is going to read the reply of the Secretary will be first of all read his own statement.

Mr. Hodge said his own statement was simply that if he had committed any breach of the Constitution he ought to be reported to the affiliated organisation of which he was a member.

Mr. Henderson asked Mr. Hodge to give the rest of the statement.

Mr. Hodge said he had not got it with him but he dare say it was on the platform.

Mr. Henderson said he would not have introduced this matter if Mr. Hodge had not proceeded to state incorrectly the position of the Executive. They sent Mr. Hodge a friendly letter and asked for his comments. Mr. Hodge replied that the Executive had formulated no charge against him, and not having done so he did not think the Executive had any right to catechise him.

Mr. Hodge (interrupting) said that that was not what was stated in the letter, and asked that the letter itself should be read.

Mr. Smillie (Miners' Federation) said three of the Vice-Presidents of the League were Miners' Members of Parliament, and the League was using the influence of those three names in mining districts to endeavour to throw discredit among the rank and file. Mabon was one of the names. He told the Miners' Federation that he had never given consent to his name being put on the paper, and it was understood that he had written about it. Mr. John Wadsworth's name was used as a Vice-President, and Victor Fisher wrote to Mr. Wadsworth telling him that the League were going to put down a Candidatea member of the Yorkshire Miners' Association-into a constituency that the Yorkshire Miners had decided to fight on behalf of Labour. In several constituencies Labour Candidates were to be fought by candidates of that League. There was no loyalty in anything of that sort. Had this been only a miners' question the miners would have settled it. They had a friendly talk with Mr. Walsh and put it to him that they did not think his position was consistent, that his name was being used for the purpose of misleading members of the Federation. had not yet deliberated on Mr. Walsh's reply but they would do so, and he thought it ought to go straight from the Conference that men could not be in two rival organisations, they could not be in the Labour Party and run under its auspices and at the same time be members of a blackleg organisation.

MR A. Hestoreson said he proposed to read the letter sent by big to M. Hodge on behalf of the Liverative and the reporter derived.

An announcement in the press by the Bellish Winkers League to the court that they propose nominating a transferable number of Caudidates at the next it because line been considered By the Labour Perty Executive. In view of this organization. having common out a party of proand dature in seculitive is at great held by the Labour Party, my Lamatine reads that the policy of the British Workers Engue must be brought to the solder of the Nottingham Conference. It has been represented to my Committee that you have some commution with the Longue and I am instructed to ask for your observations on their election policy as stated in their cutton and a reserve

71 see Mr. Hodge's reply -

the year because of the gus restant I be at gather therefore that I am shared with any breach as the Countries of I about Party. Assuming that to be I the not see that I shared by I should be eater the part I see they.

Mr. Heiner I apply give Mr. Charceste.

Ms. Water and he would like to me that he was not aware that the Large was into a propagation to fight water and the moment he have that he was a sea as that the struction had altered an adverby. Whater decides the Party arrives at he would proper as a season to the property of the

He George Leverger (Popler Trades Council) and he del want to my to My. Hodge and Mr. Wahls and to others who selllike them on the question that at one town for mon litt the name position, and he could proceeding that he the House of Toronton the above was put up to him in peetly much the same way. Against his own focings be went not and find been in the editorious for som years. This big Labour Missement had prought him back to the Conference became in his soul he believed that inthes, they stock bugetler during the next few proces it would be that on the Movement they all soon and had done so much her. He know the men who were Califort Minuters trollar, and he was not easing one word against them. It our than job to do what they thought nor right, but the Movement last new sended curry man and women to build up what the War had pulled down. He had your look focuses to lot that in the low more years he had to live be must do everything in his power set to divide but to unite

Kr Hos G. N. Bassa, M.F. (A. S. Lagisorri) and he hearthy endered Mr. Lambury's appeal he maly, but had built to be an both substitute His agreed that an other Party remaining Labour Communication Party. That was patiently amount with the large and way very shad to be he was very shad to be he was very shad to be he was very shad to be here and there is no hear were the straightnessed state.

made by Mr. Walsh, but there were other people rooming Calour Condidates London the Builds Workers' League. He Minute had been the subject of a great many charges is his own constituting and had been appeared by a trempeper in his new contributory which was run by an organization affiliated to the Labour Party. At a result of this the mass of the constituents had been present. depleted him, and so a second event the EA.P. had had a Cambiane in the hold for some time. If they were to have easily they more apply the same principle off recoil. The shorps had been study against tim that he had done measing to promote the confistature of rape of the conductors of the forms. Workers' Longon. He had done unling of the kind. He would tell the Carlotten other he had diese. Mr. Victor Fisher sond him a prometricities programme and solved farm to expense his repulse upon in. The side er, and why should be not ! How Manhors of the Pulty to be delicated in expressing their opinion on what they beloved to be to the time interest of Labour and Socialism? He was not going to reduce to anything of the kind. He had burned once that his expression of options had tens and for the presention of some Candidate, but that had But hern does with his comment.

The Conference of this joint adjourned for the day.

THURSDAY'S SESSION.

The Continuous research at a pt age, the discounter on the passagespite in the Exemptrice Report Scaled "Differs Workers" Langue."

Mil; Schrack Blasses (Independent Labour Party said that He makes statement that the LLF in Clarges with post-ning the people in the constituency was lides. The presings of the Gaugest LEP: but been than of advances of Mr. Dannes up to the terniting point. If there was any poless in Glasgow with regard to Mr. Hernes that practs, cases there has seen species to the city. When Mr. Darson name to thingue to hold a senting after the War broke not it was the LLP receivers who stade that meeting position and those who kitled up the distortains had no emicrotive. with the Lideux Movembal. Mr. Barner, by his not speech at the Butters Clair in Giospea, had lost every apport for had over had from Mrs. Tyache Course poout of views. When the Suches said that a man who was lighting for the pil. all hour was in the name untry or the professor for lost all support in Glosgow.

Ma. J. Maximo (Independent Labour Party) and he might not have thing-result in this Adhate became by hir in thingure and the large part of Schland was resourced in Evinia Windows Langue had speedy been a matter of amounted and show tenancing as a minor political unities. For Mr. Party made country by Mr. Dartin. The spirit of the miletest by Mr. Dartin. The spirit of the

LLP in the Hutchinson Town Division was such as to have made it quite possible for Mr. Parnes to have come back there if he had not gone out of his way to place himself in close connection with the real profiters of Glasgow. Mr. Barnes had found among st these people his spiritual home. Mr Darnes made charges against men some of whom by the addition of 12 per cent to their wages had early got up to 12 per week, and he made the statement amongst people who were the burgest arks and profiters in the city of Glausev. The LLP were not up against Mr. Farnes for joining the Cabinet; they were up against him because he had departed abolutely from the spent of Socialism and of the Labout Movement The feeling of the III P towards Mr. Barnes was one of the deepest and bitterest sorrow.

The Report of the Executive as a whole was adopted.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

161. T. F. RECHARDS (Auditor) said, on behalf of his co-auditor and himself, that they had gone carefully through the accounts and were pleased to report that they found everything in order. Vouchers, receipts and wayes books had all been examined and found to be kept in a very clear and concise themes and reflected great credit upon the Assistant Secretary. Mr. Middleton. There was only one item in the accounts to which Le need draw attention, and that was the item of 1000 expended in the investigations of the Clyde Deportation Committee auditors were safished with the accounts as supplied by Mr. Walleden. The auditors were alm attened that all the expenditure shown in the accounts has been made in the interests of the Party, and he therefore moved the adoption of the Report

The Statement of Accounts was accepted.

PARLIAMENTARY REPORT.

The Report of the Parliamentary Party was submitted.

A DELEGATE asked what action was being taken with regard to the amendments made to the Representation of the People Bill by the House of Lords.

Mr Hinderson replied that most of the Members were in attendance at the Conference, but consideration would be given to the matter and action taken to protect the interests of the Party.

Mr. T. Proctor (A. S. Engineers) inquired as to whether the Government were asked to hold up the Man Power Bill until after the Conference.

Ms. Henoreson said that the Executive at its meeting on Saturday might went into the matter and a long telegram was dispatched to the Prime Minister pointing out that most of the Labour Members would be in attendance at this Conference and that they considered it highly inadvisable to proceed with the Bill during their absence. A telegram had since been received in reply stating that

the matter had been very carefully considered by the Cabinet, but in consequence of the urgency of the problem and on the advice of their military experts they left in to be quite impossible to comply with the request of the Lacoutive, and that the ball would have to be proceeded with.

CORN PRODUCTION BILL

Upon the paragraph under this beauting

MR G B CLARR (Scottish Larm Servants) said there was great discatisfaction with the Report of the Parhamentary Party and there ought to be some further information given by some of the Labour Members who voted against the 30s, nummum. This was almost one of the first occasions in history where the question of wages and prices has come together. A Bill was brought in for fixing a minimum price for wheat and outs and is a corollary there was to be a minimum wage. The farmers and a number of Labour Members voted for the plunder going to the re-mers instead of to the workers. The question was whether the minimum wage should be 25s. or 30s, and the Labour Party proposed 30s, At present tos was only squal in value to 15s, before the War Was 15s, a week a hving wage ! Some Labour Members seemed to think so and they voted against the , so The reason urged was that if they had voted for striking out the 25s probably nothing would have been put in its place. He would have been very glad of that The other reason was that being Members of the Government they had to vote with the Government There was something in that but not very much. It men in the Cabinet disapproved of its policy they ought to resign; but there were many secondary questions on which men did not resign, they wided out and did not vote at all. Why these Labour Members remained and voted against the Labour Party's amendment he could not understand. The camouflage brought before the House of Commons was that yos could not be afforded, but farm servants in Scotland were getting 458, per week, and the average was 100 was glad there was a motion of censure to be moved on the Members who voted against the sos

Upon the recommendation of the Consistence Arrangements Committee it was decided at this point to take from the Agerdia a resolution dealing with the subject, and

Mr. C. Priestley (Manchester and Salford Labour Party) moved:

This Conference condemns the action of Messes. Barnes, Brace, Brace, Bedge, Parker and Roberts, in voling against the Parke's amendment to the Corn Freduction Belli, moved by Mr. G. J. Wardle, M.P., fixing the minimum wage for agricultural labourers at 30s. per week.

He said they had to deplore sometimes the necessity for condemning their colleagues, but when a Pill was submitted to Parliament which gave a subsidy of about 100,000,000 to the sharks, the least the Labour Members could have done was to support the amend-

ment for a year manistrate wage. The period of Labour Party was in the II was a first to appear and the American Traduction of Manistrate Traduction of Manistrate Traduction of the Education of the Prior to a first the period of the Prior was the subservice of the Wife Traduction.

Mr. W. R. Switze (Bent and the Cycle) types; meanful the readition and experiend the less desprointment of the Agricultural Lalencery' Union of the action of the Unsubers mentioned. President to the east the Union sought to establish a minimum wage of yes. and if that mee a satisfactory agore to prowas days it was difficult for them to see how the Labour Mentlets tends topped a maman of the It was empressed and to Connection with these matters that the Labour Members and not store project support and alvice from the Trade Comme seasoned, but in this raw the Agricultural Colomeres Course took early delicity steps to place before the Party the fullest relience. then, is depotation, was read to the House of Committee and it was there several flave. he believed he was right or saying that you of the Labour Monteen concerned told the organization that if are but been be figure doubted upon as a minimum he would have supported it. This kind of thing make it easy difficult for those who eyes trying to felog the agricultural intovore to underplaced the moreoity of repporting the Labour Party. They been that on this queeting they sould have not support from Liberal Monthern, but the Union desired to be local to the Labour Party and retuned to reportate with any other Party. They were gial that the Party officials has less the use, common a but they deployed the last that few Labour Manusco should not ments support the their near Party or solment.

Me W White Freeze (Mine Personal Content of the Mine of o

Ms. W. C. ANDIE SON, M.P. Independent Labour Party; said he would not be a labour Party; said he would not be a labour behalf of the Executive less he had not be been in the interests of the Parhamentary Pabty as a short that statement should be made us the mailer of the It ought not to be begutten that the aread ment in layour of a yes minimum was an enternal amendment put forward by the Labour Party. It was no question of any

medical of the Party Uping to play of aquired another. It was a action official Party amondment, suscioned at the Piete medical and the only people who could not see their way to such for it were the Missiant of the Party who were tied up to the presented as Members of the Continue. The could not understand here there usual for the read difficulty in both an issue. He limited tolerfishely that any man got porour! the amount most from the standpoint of derivering the Did at a while. He ten position to the till was server in shaller. He would assume the aertions he balleved to be aeri-serial and wrong, but there were Menthers who did not your against those sections but voted whole learnedly by increasing the minimum suge, and their purpose could not have been to wrong the DEL. The Agricultural Laboureye' there were belief the asymptom for pos. The Porty acted so they believed in the best laborate of the ages officed infrapers. and if it was said that a non-residenced hashed present conditions and colored to person has the more been railing one of the people during the War). All that had he has taken into propert. Storling sensed him more than the apparently fundamental change in some of their own purple. Take the upon of Mr. Harron, wher work to fillengow, and and that may wethern who demonist THE PART COME. SOUTHWAY IN THE WARPE OF stranged of first prior, was in a front first. the producers. That came from a many whose two locuse during the new hall expressed been it is in per week to just so the per need. It the not lies with the Labour representative to make the upon of that kind against his leve people. Here could they expect to secure the support of the age. andread thirteens if they went up in 1916. way?. He take the Conseque Duckly that the Party could not go brought to viction to this way. He wished now all the recently in the Party bringle number, but it was creating difficulties to put more in the Cornellanext and expert these to not in detunes or the Courtemant of the same time.

Mg. The Markalay (Endopended Lapses Payly) and he was one of those who want below the Parly Officers to get fine take on the agricultural labourers, and it was on the agricultural fallourers, and it was one of the most partial things in his experience to have most partial things in his experience to have most partial the payl and the track that they would had puse up one yet send, that they would had puse up, not yet send, that they would had puse up, not yet send the given the labourery. When the URI came prison to be out discounted to that the quarthy in content quantities of the way distoured of the Marchen the would like to an uncorn in these librariers principle the reliages and line the uses.

Ma. Were Tractice, M.P. Contests Workers and he was one of those who could no the year so he was not converged, but the tree had strend when the Contestance and the Parliamentary Purity rought to have a clear understanding. He wished to intract. the delegates that there were nothing non in the Contestance when were not playing the game.

There was a certain section of the Parliamentary Party that came to the Party meetings and then afterwards were in collusion with other people

THE CHAIRMAN (interrupting) asked Mr. Thorne to keep to the resolution

- MR THORNE asked why, if Mr Anderson could trounce some of the Members, why could not others have a chance. During the whole War period he (Mr. Thorne) had had not ong to do with any but the Labour Party. Could some of the others say that?

Ms Anderson interrupting) said that if Mr. Thorne had a charge to make against him of ever having voted in the House of Commons against the workers, let Mr. Thorne make that charge now.

MR. THORNE said he was speaking about collusion with other people in the House of Commons and it was time there was a clear understanding. (Mr. Thome continued to make other remarks but was called to order by the Chairman)

MR. R. B. WALKER (Agricultural Labourers Union said that as a Union they were against the underlying principles of the whole Bill When meeting the Party he made that clear and he was told by the then Chairman (Mr. Wardle) that it was no good making a statement like that. They had either to accept the Bill or reject it. The Chairman had no right to put any Trade Union official in such a position. It was at the same meeting that Mr. Roberts told the deputation when they were being urged to accept the 25s that if the Government had offered 22s. he (Mr. Roberts) would have accepted it. Shortly afterwards a mass meeting of agricultural labourers in North Norfolk quite spontaneously passed a resolation calling upon the Government to put a yos manimom in the Bill, and if this was not done declaring that the Bill should be opposed in all its future stages. He submitted that it solution to the Chairman of the Party, who replied." Don't come to me with a resolution like that. Do you want to deleat the Government?" However, in spate of all it had done good and the Union, if it could not get the ses, minimum through the Labour Party, was going to get it by industrial organisation.

Mr. T. E. NAYLOR (London Society of Compositors) said that many delegates had supported the principle of the Coalition, but if support of the Coalition meant that they had to support the action of Labour Members of the Government in voting against the official decisions of the Parliamentary Party, he for one was not going to support the Coalition. Members of the Party had been out off for voting against the Party's decisions and if that could be done with minor Members of the Party it ought to be done with the Members now in the Government

Mr. Stephen Walsh, M.P. (Miners' Federation) said he was not one of those mentioned in the resolution, but he was not entitled to any credit for that, and he wished to ask the delegates to consider the difference between passing hasty resolutions in Conference and the responsibility that rested upon a body of men in Parliament who were doing their best in exceedingly difficult circumstances. It was perfectly true that towards the latter part of the negotiations the Union made up its mind for the gos. minimum, but in the earlier negotiations they were not in favour of a figure being put in at all, and many of the Members of the Party were lett in considerable doubt. Many thought they would be better able to utilise the Bill for the good of the labourers if the principle merely were put in the Bill without any figure, because it was thought as indeed had proved to be the case in other instances that when a minimum was put in a Bill the maximum worked down to that minimum. For several years past in the House there had been an overwhelming majority opposed to Bills of this description and it was distinctly laid down that if the 30s, was carried the Bill would be dropped. He had not the faintest hesitation in saying that the Government could not have pressed the 30s, minimum against the great bulk of Members in the House of Commons. If the Bill had been dropped would the position of the agricultural labourers have been improved? Could anybody imagine that? The best thing that had happened to the Miners, judging from experience, was the Minimum Wage Act of 1912. If this Bill had gone the Agricultural Labourers' Union, which at that time was not so well organised, would have been in a far worse position. The Union did not want the Bill destroyed. The 25s. was agreed upon under Mr. Henderson's chairmanship, and he was the man as much responsible as anyone for the 25s. He (Mr. Walsh) did not feel that he could vote for the 25s., he thought this figure was insufficient, but he did not feel that he could take the responsibility of wrecking the Bill, and he therefore abstained from voting. They could not afford to play heroics in Parliament. They could do so in Conferences but in Parliament they must have some sense of responsibility.

MR. A. HENDERSON (Secretary) said he would not have taken part in the debate but for the statement made by Mr. Walsh that he was probably more responsible than anyone else for the 25s. minimum being in the Bill when introduced in the House of Commons. He was; but was that the issue to be faced on this resolution? He understood the point before the Conference to be the action of certain Members in voting not for the Bill or against the Bill, but against an amendment officially approved at a Party meeting and moved by a representative. He would not deal with that, but he would answer the charge made against him. He was responsible for the 25s, going into the Bill because he could not get a higher figure

on the Cabinet, and if he had not four its predably one of the barrent solds the last would have been introduced without any minimum whatever. He teld the Cabinet that he was not sainted that he last or people would not be content with the post in the Tail and that he felt one they and not accept the Pall without a saledate of minimum. That was the measure of he responsibility. If he would have carried through the Cabinet a minimum of a be would have done so. He was not asked that he bought for the are and left it to the Party when it got to the House He had nothing to prevent the Party esting the second in the the Party estimates the party estim

Mr. Watsir (interrupting a "And nothing to help."

A DELEGATE asked whether Mr. Henderson conveyed that information to his solding sea on the Party.

Mn. Watest replied | "Yes; asked us to support the 25s."

Mr. Hastraness challenged Mr. Walsh to bring forward any statement he had ever made in a Party meeting.

MR Water We were colleagues to yours then just as we are colleagues of Daines new, and you said everyone of as to support the 25s minimum

It was moved, seconded and agreed to:-

The resolution was put and declared carried

MUNITIONS OF WAR SAMENING BILL

Mu. E. H. Janus (Carpenters and Johnson) moved:

That this paragraph he releved back,

He said the Covernment were taking and dreds of expendence if I have been the Army and putting bester in the content of the Part in training the artists of the Government.

A Delegate Corpositors and I design that the first the first that that the first
The motion was put and declared lastical

With this reference back the remainder of the Pathamentary Report was accepted.

SITE IS DEPOSIT OF STATE

Ms. J. E. Mriss | S. S. Fuginers) country. That the Report by internal hash

He said he did so because in his opinion the Consulter had not taken a sufficiently strong line. It was now from the findings of the Committee that the Dilution Comexistence in the Clyde area allowed a novement to apread which resulted in a system of Alletion agreements with no siriloite thank petacopin in these, so that a sloop which was will repassed had a good agreement and a slop bally organized but a bad agreeness acting to the detrinest of the term. The pends not that practically the whole of the Clyb, area was in a formed. He wished to my specifically that they really opported that David Kirkwood repullated Mr. Header son and Mr. Drownfer, but there were commeleptors blad roughly to be taken beto consideratten, and one was the last thin the right to stree had been taken away. The A.S.E. republished resplicating the printiple of deportation exthesi total.

Mn. T. Clark | S. S. Signacovi secondard the rection and soil that the Confirmate regist to enter an emphatic process against this or any other to-comment departing working men without even telling them what there were departed for. The Officmattee had represent no opinion on the policy. The Committee regist to have stated what the artitude of the Party should be forestly department without stat.

Ma. A. G. Waterster (Secretary of the Committee) pointed out that in pringraph 1) in paying at the Consister's Report there was a viewe expression of spinors on deportation. With regard to the point pained by Mr. Mille the Committee front that the A.R. t. took a ladiet in March, 1915. or later in the year after the principalities of the Musikassa of War field, and by a selectiontial majority the rank and the total to force. Facther, the Consulties were not preposed to for anything sime by the Diloten Comminimum but the internation gutlered by the Committee was not at accordance with Mr. Milly statement, as would be now in paragraph of the pupe in of the limper. He regarded that there were so adoption results the solvening the Report back

A Distance asked whether the Commune had considered the question of ending a sensementation that the Communed should pay compression to the men who were departed.

Mr. Western replied that the Committee were more night to comilies that your either by the A.S.E., the Opin Workers Lamoure, or the aloparton.

A Denotary asked whather in the believe paragraph on pure ar the weeks "Worker's want any bind" was the complete electronic of Commile Happity.

^{*} See Appendix III - Tage 145-

Mr. Walfden replied that the words quoted were given by Major Gardiner, but the Committee had evidence from another source altogether which went to corroborate the statement that that was the impression Mr. Haggarty gave

The motion to refer back was put and declared lost, and the Report was accepted.

DRAFT REPORT ON RECONSTRUCTION.

THE CHAIRMAN formally moved the following resolution standing in the name of the Executive:

That the Draft Report on Reconstruction be referred to all the consideration erganisations of the Party for their consideration; and that it be so used for turther consideration in the Agenda of the Party Conference in June next or at any Special Party Conference that way be necessitated before that time by the project of an approaching General Election. The resolution was seconded and carried.

PARTY ADMINISTRATION.

THE PARTY AND THE COALITION GOVERNMENT.

Mr. R. J. Davies (Manchester and Salford Labour Party) moved the following composite resolution:—

That this Conference is of opinion that it is contrary to the interests of the working classes for Labour Members of Parliament to remain members of the Coalition Government or any subsequent capitalist Government.

He said it had been argued that it was to the interest of the workers that Labour Members should enter the Coalition Government because they would permeate the Government Departments with Labour ideals. He would venture to say that the reverse had happened. Instead of permeating the Departments the capitalist Government had permeated the Labour men. The speeches of some of the Labour Ministers were filled with militarism and jingoism. Another argument was that if a Labour Government was to come it was necessary for Labour Members to gain administrative experience. How many of the Labour Members in this Government would be in the Labour Government? To-day a member of the Party (Wallhead) was in gaol and there were Labour men in the Government which had imprisoned him. Again, the secret treaties with the late Czar's Government were the most outrageous documents ever written. The Labour Ministers were simply shields to prevent the Labour Movement dealing with the capitalists. The Labour Party came into existence to destroy capitalism, but the Labour Ministers were bolstering it up. They ought to come out. What argument would the Labour Ministers have when this War was overwhat argument would the Movement have in working for them in favour of an independent party in the future?

"' I ABOUR AND THE NEW SOCIAL ORDER."
(2d. post free 3d.)

MR A. E. CHANDLER (Sheffield Trades Council seconded the resolution and said he was not unmindful of the appeal made by Mr. Lansbury the day before for unity and tolerance, but there was a time when tolerance became intolerable. There was a great feeling of relief throughout the country when Mr. Henderson left the Government, but that feeling of relief was turned to dismay when Labour Members rushed into vacancies caused by a re-shuffling of the cards as a result of Mr. Henderson's resignation. The Labour Ministers had shown themselves to be absolutely bound to the capitalist Government.

Mr. J. Maclean (British Socialist Party) said the actions of the Government in deporting men and imprisoning others who were fighting the battles of the working class were sufficient justification for the Labour Ministers being withdrawn or repudiated. They were not leading the Movement industrially, let alone politically. The French Socialists had forced their men to withdraw from the French Government.

Mr. Henderson (Secretary) said he had been asked by the Executive to put their position regarding the resolution, and he hoped the Conference would deal with the question as dispassionately as its importance demanded. He had listened attentively to the speeches and he remembered having heard those speeches before. If they were in normal times, delegates could sit and listen through a very long debate about the desirability of being dissociated with any form of capitalist Government, but they were not in normal times. He did not mind making a confession of faith: that all the time he had been in the Party he had positively refused every suggestion from whatever source it came of being associated with a capitalist Government of a coalition character. He wished to make another confession of faith. Now that he had had experience of two Governments, as long as ever he lived he should never be a member of any other Government, whatever be its colour, unless Labour was in control. The delegates would therefore see how he approached the subject. But they were not in normal times. If they were they would never have been part of a Coalition Government. They joined the Coalition Government under exceptional circumstances. The subsequent Conference approved of that action, and the next Conference ratified it. Therefore the question was : Were the circumstances to day so much different that they ought to reverse the previous decisions? It was an impossibility to expect the Labour Members in the Government to give entire satisfaction. Upon entering a Government they took the risks and got as much as they could in the interests of those they represented. The advantages had to be balanced against the disadvantages, and if he had time he thought he could prove to the satisfaction of those who voted for the Party joining the Government-not to the satisfaction of those who opposed it-that the balance lay with the

infrantages rather than the featureters But he weeked to point out that during the heat few works the Movement had been going along in the short on of what he loyed record to an international proof a People's Peace. That to him was the supreme question, and when he was asked to support a resolution that might mean breaking up the Covernment, might mean patting us into a General Election on a register not only stale but notion, he had to ask himself whether he was going to amont the Peace pane by renning those two roks. 35+ asked the delegates not to concentrate their attention upon this you or that core, the research or the other measure, but on the auguste is so of the hour the attaining of Pence at the earliest possible secureut. They small endy do that by leaving the Combrence undivided on the particular He did not want to see the resolution other curred or defeated. The mose of the hour would be lest served if the "previous quantum " were carried. They could go along then, and the scoper Ivace came the some would come the end of the Coalition Constitution. The momer they got Peace the sooner they would have a regater on which they sould appeal to the demosracy, and he hoped they would appeal in harmony with the second part of the resolution. He segretted the resolution had not been divided into two parts. If he had been asked to vote against ever entering any capital to control he would put up both hands. But the rendution as it stood meant breaking up the Government. He beseehed the delegates in the interests of Peace to let the Government go on and push them as hard so they could for the supreme more—the socuring of a lasting People's Peace

MR I BROMERY (Associated Locomotive Engineers and Firemeny said they had been asked each time this question had come up not be touch it as it would be demorrows and something would happen. Something had happened—they had got deeper and deeper into the mare. He had been in the understand Consenses where Libert was branched He had been putting the case of reviews minded Trade Commute and surners supposters of the Labour Facts, and the Labour representative had not domb, without giving from the facts that that was the attended of the majority of the Labour sees in the Covernment on Labor question Further, they had asserted the supremier them on crushing Trade Unusion. It was said that to deal with them more would delay Prace. He differed from My Henderson on that peant. He was kindly of spinless that had labour not prestituted stall by training should be the outsided olses. Proce would loss come long age. The Exercited and the Farlianumians Farty knew that there was terrible charge and the contract of the country. If the Government and the public Delieved that by the Conservation of the

provides they had not the shall of the Labour expenses to the possite they would be appointed to the possite they would be be letter a few provides to the continue, the Combetteen major a real that to place out they declare the possite to the possite they declare the possite to the possite that the possite the possite they declare out to the possite out of the possite of the possite out of

Ma. J. Durman (Minor) Probustions said they had been beloning to much the name restoring so had been briad at previous Conference on the imperial question. Nothing new had here said by those advocathey suck an important change in the Party's policy. Cretain statements had been made, but no realisate in represent had been relocated. the Party had decided in the national interests to join the Operational Section 98 was provident amenital in the interests of posterand the encounted promoution of the War to show a united front. It was decided at Marchette that the next thould remain in the Greenwood so that when the been of Prior were being aspetiated Earlow should have representatives present to the Council of the Nationa. Labour wanted no amount tions not acquisition of other people's less-tories, and lose farthe could this be conjuncted Class by having representatives in any Council that might meet # Would it be vise, therefore to go back upon that postors? Nothing had happened to puttify such a charge. The votes said by one representative or mother in the Caldnet slid not allors the man com-

Me. C. Carras (Newsanie L. R.C.) mount (

The previous pressure.

The was recorded and pet, there ested

For (Allegion Spanier)

and it was included sured.

THE COVERNORST.

Mr. Brance Williams (National Area) general Laborator Police) record the laborator

This Labour Party Conference declares that at in invegoirs and insubstitute than any member of the Electrical Contention should return for others removing with the Fasty upon the exceptance of an official position with the Greenmann.

He said filters was a difference between this semilation and the one just diagrams! In: Militarism and the apelian very strongly in the twenty of the Labour Manufacture of the relations of the Labour Manufacture in the forevenions, but his plantaness werds a better to the Prime Monotor replaining his position in very understanding additional labor to the letter was that it was impactable for Mr. Hymbers of the amountain his challes of office. It is not a back thing to

hold the two positions of membership in the Government and the secretaryship of the Party, it was an equally bad thing for a Labour Member to remain on the Executive while holding an official position in the Government.

MR. C. WATKINS (National Union of Railwaymen) seconded the resolution and said that no man could serve two opposing principles. In his opinion the Government and the Labour Movement stood for two antagement principles. The function of the Labour Movement in the political world was destruction to destroy the old political order so that the great industrial economic movement could have Ireedom to develop. Their Members should therefore keep themselves free from connection with the Government.

THE CHAIRMAN stated that the Executive were having this matter to the decision of the Conference.

Mr. John Hill (Boilermakers) said he was opposed to their Members of Parliament and Members of the Executive being members of any capitalist Government, and nothing had convinced him more than the action of Mr. Henderson and his statement at the Conference. Mr. Henderson had come to recomise the indignities of his association with the Government and had given his pledge for the future. If the delegates would bear in mind the great strides made by the Party since the Secretary left the Government there would be no doubt about the inadvisability of keeping the officials of the Party clear of Governmental responsibilities.

MR. J. R. CLYNES, M.P. (General Workers) said that if the resolution was carried it would have the effect of driving out of the Executive two of its present members—Mr. Wardle and himself. (No, No!") Although he had bad the honour of being elected to the Executive on every occasion he had stood as a candidate, and although he had had some considerable training in administrative work, he sought no privilege if the Conference thought he ought to leave it. He wished to repudiate Mr. Hill's statement that a Labour man in the Government could not act honestly on a Labour Executive.

Mr. Hitt. (interrupting) said "I never said that."

Mr. CLYNES said he was glad to know that was not what Mr. Hill meant, but certainly all he stated led to the conclusion that a man who sat upon a Labour Executive could not do his duty in the post he filled in the Government. His (Mr. Clynes') view was that a Labour man who held office still retained his allegiance to Labour, that he should never upon any occasion surrender the interests of Labour in the pursuit of his duties as a Member of the Government. The Labour Ministers had been on their trial during the course of the Conference, and he wished to say that he hoped he never had voted or acted on the Executive in any way

that subordinated the interests of Labour. He had never subordinated those interests merely because he had a temporary attachment to the Government. The delegates had perfect freedom to elect the men they thought fit. It was possible, in spite of the hot air to the contrary, for a man to be honest to Labour on a Labour Executive and at the same time seek to serve the national interests in some Department of State.

Mr. F. Bevin (Dock, Wharf, &c., Workers) asked whether it would be permissible for him to move the adjournment of the debate until the June Conference.

THE CHAIRMAN replied that he could not accept such a motion.

The motion was put, there voted

For 794,000 Against 1,501,000

and it was declared lost.

At this point the Conference adjourned for lunch, and resumed at two o'clock.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATURES.

Mr. M Lewis (Merthyr Labour Party) moved the following:

That it be an instruction to the Executive Committee of the Labour Party, that in all cases of a refusal to sanction a Parliamentary Candidature, a full statement of the reasons for such refusal be made to the Local Labour Party concerned.

He said the resolution arose out of a little experience the Merthyr Party had had with the Executive, and as a result the Conference was asked whether a Local Labour Party had the right to receive the reasons for the refusal of the Executive to sanction a candi-dature. The Annual Conference of the Merthyr Party in 1915 decided by an overwheiming majority that at the next contest two cambidates should be run. He immediately got into communication with the National Executive with a request for guidance, with the result that the National Agent was sent down to make enquiries. Subsequently they were informed that the Executive could not grant the request. then wrote the Executive for, amongst other things, the reasoned statement which must have been submitted to the Executive before they came to their decision. He was refused the statement point blank. Afterwards the Executive were requested to state their reasons for refusing to sanction the candidature but they failed absolutely to obtain any statement from the Executive. The Merthyr Party did not want to take from the Executive the right to refuse sanction. All they asked was that when such was refused the reasons should be supplied.

MR. N. S. BEATON (Shop Assistants) seconded.

The resolution was put and carried.

VOLING AT PARTY CONFERENCES

The Challenan tokal out of order translations under this heading on the period that the use of the card sots was a matter be the Social Bornston within the structionity of the Constitution.

PROPAGANDA AND ORGANISATION AGENTS' CONFERENCES WEISH ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Catable and that in the spinor of the Lacentive the procedules and the above has hope and the gradient with named above the most constitute to the part of the part of the constitute of the

A PERSONTE seased why the process given two years against the selling a Continuous Agends had not been carried out.

The Charuman replied that so for as he knew everything had been done by the fine-stive to carry out the process, having regard to the percentage excumptaces, but when the next constitute in her larger would be gotte into.

Ms. J. H. Tressav, M.P. (N.U. Kallesymon) asked whether it would not be possible to call a Conference of the Agents before the next Party Conference in London.

Ms. Harman and he cad not see the war to all having and a Conference before the next Party Conference in Landau hat it had been a Conference in Landau hat soon after the new Constitutions came into operation with the significant of the next General Election, and he thought a good many of the agents were satisfied with that under taxoning

Ms. I. Constanting Catheroe Labour Party) asked whether the Essantive were prepared to sail the agents together as some as the Representation of the Propie Inil Isali passed.

Mr. Heromeson replied that he could not give a promise. The agents would be called together as soon as the projet realists on available for the ossile the General Election.

A Discourse said that when the agents had something to put before the Executive they ought to be received.

MR. HENDERSON stated that the age of had had a meeting and had asked the Livestine for an opportunity of meeting to be but owing to the exceptional type of most meet the accretion a full Committee of appearance the Chairman the Vest Chairman and humanit along with National Acceptance of the transfer of the ground meeting and decrease matters that were brought up. I have a matters that were brought up.

OVERLARIENT

Mr. W. E. Wunters (Malway Dicks

"That this Continues they with some apprehenses the multiplicity of new mattered trapastoritation which attempts to deal with Lebour politics, due the respected childing of Continues to be such before—then trading in discretific of the prehasent Labour requalitation and to operate decime in their mode. The Continues therefore, in the account of the nastly of the National Labour Parties from compressing with any political or some publical newspects or requirement by the Party in Lindbergood amounted by the National Emergence amounted to by the National Emerger.

The tail? Obey had been introduced conductors Now of the British Workow' Longue, but he thought be would be interpreting the fulling of a pertion, at any year, when he said than the firms Muchon League was the offer of a spore; and look that came not gainful the League would not have facts in care. smon." There was quite a group of organisations in emidency as the present lime toping. ing agent the inections of the deluction Labour Morement and the repaired Published Labour Movement. The names of these capanisations from familiar and embaloil sin-Council of Civil Liberton, the No Council Com-Petireship, the Cuses of Democratic Control, topether with the Details Workers' League He ladered the Contrours was prepared to committe bett pains of the question, and if one was to be resoured the others would be nemated also. There templications were causing dissension in the Minneson and II would have to take stock of the whole some Encluye the most enjortenair encrypt. of all was that in the Long Convention called to consider the setting up of Workman, a and Soldiers' Councils. Mikellar these were an work in the industrial or political field by was not aware, but in any case they would have impirized open the functions of existing organization. Mr. Smiles and that the Minest' Poleration wireed with some alone the last that the sames of their Parliamentary Members som being med, and that nonpools not be in two strait organisations. It Mr. Work and the others were being in loading their majors to our organization, the position of people who were assisting in the formation of these Workness hand Scidiors' Councils regist to be brought under notice.

Mr. Discount Settle (Means Telleration seconded the resolution and said they wanted no false posture. They wished to be at tall to one of to business.

Ms. Hannaness (bereitary) and he hoped the Continuous sould andersonal ready what the manipulate was. The moves did not deal with the subject matter of the resolution. The necessity with the position, dealt with position; the mount is speak dealt with position; the mount is speak dealt with position; and he did not passe any one

affiliated Society that had direct affiliation with any of the Societies to which reference had been made. Therefore the resolution wealth not an wer the purpose of either the move or seconder. The resolution advised all amiliated Societies to refrain from cooperating with any political or semi-political movement. Was it possible to carry on a great political party without having some cooperation. Did they imagine they were going to reconstruct society and have no connection with any really outside their examination of or instance, he had taken part reconstruct society and have no conference and the country the Cooperative Conference. It such a resolution as this had been in record accould have her remained for so ming. It may see cort for some great measure in favour of a Ministry of Health were they to have no association with any society anxious to assist in promoting a higher standard of I alth? He wanted the delegates to realise how narrow the resolution was.

The resolution was put and declared lost.

SOLDIERS' CHARTER.

COUNCILION W. R. MI KRY [Independent Labour Party) moved the following composite resolution

- 11" That the Conference strongly
 - "(a) I hat the post separation allowances and persons of colders and sailors and their defundants should be substantially increased, should be based or rates of civil wages, and handd respond to the great rise in the cost of living.
 - "(b) That the formum found to discharged man should be in respect of injuries received without regard to the wages they may happen to be carning, and that the mans fand to such menhand be in respect of work dime and of the standards of the trade and district, without regard to any pension they may be receiving
 - I had more governess fore ission should be made for the reductival training, especially during approving ship to a trade of the children of describe sailors and soldiers.
 - d That seems that widners have real duties and responsibilities, the fullest further measure of civil and fullities' liberty should be granted to them.
 - That all med cal examinations should be conducted under humane conditions and should have regard to the warmth, comfort, and permaters of the men concerned, and that full regard should be given to a man's life medical history.

- "(f) That the death penalty in the Army should be reduced to the narrowest limits, and that in so circumstances should a soldier be sentened to death without the means of legal or adequate defence, and courts martial should include representatives of produces soldiers.
- "is I had the sestem of fluoring unfil menter the Class W. Army Reserve which sometimes affects adverted black persons, ungs. industrial status and freedom, should be abstracted, so that men no longer serviced is to the Army may receive their final discharge.
- "It That self-given ny organisations of aischarged sailors and older should be adequately represented on all Commutees dealing with the alministration of ar pensions and similar matters.
- "(i) And that the Labour l'arty be requested to press this programme upon the Government."

He regretted that after three and a half years it should be necessary to put forward claims not already recognised on behalf of the soldiers. The administration of pensions at the present time was a scandal. It was found for example that a woman who had been widowed, although she received the State allowance for six months after her husband's death, as soon as the six months had expired there was a reduction in the pension in many cases to is, a week. He was speaking of widows with children, and he had set to learn that a woman left with children on her hands could take care of them if her income was limited in that manner. The comeannty as a whole should take the responsibility of looking after the children of those who had tallen in the War. Earther, a woman in London received is, od per week extra. II she removed to Wales this was stopped, and if after a time she returned to Condon it was not restored. He desired to call special attention to paragraph (d). There were members of the omcer class going up and down the country putting forward their political views. He did not dispute their right, but it Brigadier-General roft was able to lecture on Tariii Reform, the private soldier ought to have the same vicht.

Mg C G. Ammon (Democratery Trades touncil) seconded the resolution and said that at fillockpool in September, speaking on the question of pensions, he raised several specific cases which he was shortly afterwards requested to substantiate. He did so and was glad to say that all of the cases had been located and put night. But the system should be such that no man should require special pleading on his behalf to get justice done. In the administration of pen ions great differentiation was shown. The wife of an ordinary Tommy killed in action received t is ed per week pension, a get tatty of \$t_5\$, and a slicing scale for children, beginning with \$t_5\$, for the first down to 28, 6d, for

211- 10 0 That was not an early at persons prices to get the pints of mile is such. It a junior valsalition gat killed for war inserval. a graduity of green mad a persons of close as year. He know that morning of our family the took up a necession and the other panel the rapin. The other and break tours and was mealthed out with a pennion of Octs a year. The heather hot his log and was reached a presum, of the per mark. The adjant class entered to all for every child and after one more, up to Jun 4 heat was allowed for the Dalaton of the children, but there was harnly anything allowed in the have to the chicken or ple working than However Stock-difference there might be on the War, the Perty or a whole was out to new publics since he the man whee had about the bulleting and hereny of the terrelat.

Ma. Box Trance (General trains of Bratile Workers; supported the resolution and and he could renember the very angipromises enade three and a ball years ago to the even who cohorteend, but many at the people who made those promises had since sociotion them be were perpared to anglest them. He wished to endorse the appeal that the private soldiers should been full distliberty. It would to him a wantabase shame that Generals or retired Generals on half pay should be provileged to attend all meth of gutherings of a political nature, and il a private wanted to go to a Labour gathering for political freedom he had to fed his military garts and disgons honosif in civilian charles are claimed for the private addised the private soldier point to the front to night for civil liberty for the same if he could be have tril liberty at home of washed to draw special attention to paragraph (i) respecting the death penalty in the Army. When an faces highling against us and nations naliting with us could do without that diabolical penalty he could not use why the great British Army, composed of the anest people of the action, should be subject to it. Farther, with regard to courts-martial, poers caught to be tried by poers and the private soldier ought to be tried by private soldiers. And a paragraph dealt with the Discharged Soldiers Association, and he wanted to see the Movement give all the ambition if could, but not for what it could get. Many of these ruce requires advice and guidance and smarkship. He also wanted the Movement to help destroy any life about the Courades of the tirest War. That was a bestard sesociation promoted to certain purposes that ever and in the interests on the private soldier or of democracy in peneral. Finally, let them top and give jotion and preciously to all their contigues men sometimes sympathy slept, but they must not let justice fail !

said to waded to give his beauty surport to the resolution and he report that the Conference was going to appart the going to the conference was going to appart the Pensions Warrent was fixed hist year.

throught it was a matter for congruntation that so good an advance had been made, but your three proves of greats had good up and the present scale or peutine did not got warp that how as anonyment with that your, feeling the jeried many demands had love per breast for higher super on the part of men comparations highly-park. The gave blie the opportunity of soling fluit when he had steed open platforms voterily and combined then for making droppeds white they steep hibrary well-paid, he always had let his point the eligendam of flow beaut been who pure natury there make upon and to whom they need the tast flux the Continued was more by his solety and recently He also had its mind the fact little for reprenormal & emulaturary purcols the passes in the country, where men more hed letting \$5 or \$5 per work but note \$5 or \$5 per work or good lost, and so prices became inflated by sacraning married in make whaten by thee people; including the depositors and where of subjects and majors. More regard to depositude, his could spare consider the anorthos made by parents to temper to their nest, who went away to the Wat-Many of them were appreciated, or emprey to whom their parents had parelled the control in order that their acts might possibly \$10. better positions. To just opin among the principle of pre-site depth/desire had been strictly applied. He was glad the Conferroce was going to give a republic of the direction of known power and more report, put he ledget they have his mother when he was at or by years at ago, but what he might have given for two on these years later but for the last than to went away and amplified his life for the good of the survivy. He was our Mr. Hadge would welcome the passing til the resolution, and be would give Mr. Hadge all the halp to his power to proling it into popystion.

Mr. A. Myrenigen (Scirclary) and he might supiain so this paset what the X overtive, in conjunction with the Parlameters Compatibles, wary Brying to do in order to have any muletains with regard to decharged and Guibbil widow properly carried abortion. It was a very log position. They had gone role the surject ares the Harkpool Trades Designes and were constated that the matter right wa be amount to yest where it was 'I had no many of their propin had gone to the head, many of them Athel and these or the many market if was hill that they should have all provide afficer and austrance to other to clause that which was their clee by it had been decaded to errors or once a Names of Labour Labour and Treater Linguist Stations Thomas, to be employed in Louise. A Committee had been set up, of which Mr. Roseyman. was privilary and he was charmen. They had already been in commitation with organisations camerag for 16th place of work. Endowence, were being rante to gri more co-collective, and it was toped that at the Contrast the history would be equited with a report giving full information on the practical side of the soldiers' case. He would venture to say that no delegate would go away without feeling impactsely satisfied that the Committees had taken the matter up.

The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

EDUCATION.

Mr. G. Isaacs (Operative Printers and Assistants) moved the following composite resolution:—

I= (t),— That this Conference, while recognising that the Education Isill represents at considerable advance on pre-war conditions, afterns its belief that it falls far short of the minimum that is adequate to the needs of the country and the opportunity before it, and demands that the Bill should be amended so as to make it a complete charter of National Education from the Primary School to the University and especially to secure:

- "(a) That the establishment of a sufficient number of Nursery Schools be made compulsory on all Local Education Authorities, and that these be open to all children whose parents wish them to attend;
- "(b) That the supply of adequate medical and dental treatment should be compulsory on Local Education Authorities for all scholars up to the age of 18;
- "(c) That the size of classes in all schools should be immediately reduced to 40, and ultimately to 30 pupils;
- "(d) That the employment of children for profit and wages outside school hours during the compulsory fulltime school period be prohibited;
- "(e) That the age of compulsory attendance should be raised to 10, without exemption, within a fixed period after the appointed day, and that maintenance allowances be provided where necessary;
- "(f) That compulsory part-time education of not less than 20 hours per
 week, including time spent in
 organised games and schools meals,
 be provided free for all young
 persons not receiving full-time
 education. That the hours of
 labour for all young persons, under
 the age of 18, be limited to a
 maximum of 25 per week, and
 that workshop schools shall not be
 reconstituted as places of continuation
 eduration
- "'(g) That the education of girls in such schools shall be planned on the lines of a broad general education and shall not be directed only to the acquirement of skill in domestic duties."

He said the first point was a demand for facilities to be given to secure the early passage of the Education Bill which had been introduced. He thought it was unlair that a question of such vital importance should have been thrown over in the last Session. He appealed to the Conference to adopt the resolution, not from any self-sh point of view, but mainly that the children of the future should have a better time.

MR. C. PRIESTLEY (Manchester and Saltord Labour Party; seconded and said the Minister of Education had stated that the time had come when society should not be divided between earners and learners but the spirit of democracy should prevail in our educational institutions. Culture at the present time was monopolised by the idle parasitic class. The rich could have the nurse and the ianuly doctor to look after their children before they became ill, and the resolution urged that an efficient substitute for that would be nursing schools. Medical and dental treatment was also necessary to prevent disease rather than to cure it.

Mr. W. Harris (Merthyr Labour Party) said he rose to oppose the resolution from beginning to end and to bring the Conference back to where it stood in Manchester. In this resolution there were grave sins of commission and omission. There] was not a word about secondary education in it. The Manchester resolution demanded compulsory free education for everybody—the abolition of all fees. This resolution urged that the size of classes should be 40. He had tried to teach a class of 60, but he could not do it. He could not teach a class of 30, and he was as good as anybody. A class of 30 was more than enough; and the Manchester resolution declared that classes should be the same in the primary as in the secondary schools. He hoped the Conference would not depart from the Manchester resolution.

MR. C. T. CRAMP (N. U. Railwaymen) said he would be sorry to oppose the resolution, but at the same time it fell very short of the resolution he would like to see. resolution dealt mainly with the conditions under which education should be given. He would like to see the Conference deal with the kind of education that should be given. The Conference had been considering the question of the organisation of the electorate in order that the Party might be strengthened at the coming election. Had they ever considered that what ought to be done first of all was to get the proper kind of material to be organised? The working class looked at education in the main from the wrong standpoint. Many men and women made immense sacrifices in order that their children should have a better start in life, but that was not the kind of thing he wanted. He wanted to uplift his class, and the man who emptied the dustbin to be as well educated as himself.

Mr. E. Bevin (Dock, Wharf and Riverside Labourers) opposed the resolution and expressed regret that in view of the fact that

an Education Bill had been mereland in the last session the fix-ative had made on reference to it in their Report. The cine lution now before the Confer or was the behind previous resolutions, and me regrettable instore was the absence of a demand the facilities for training factors benches. They all exacted the size of classes to be reduced, but he would point not that when there was a Labour Minister of Education that Minister spend here stopped the tiking into the Avoy of thousands of busilers who were provided in a most oftal national moves. It was inverse, left to the uthernia and other people who had no interest in also size. to distroy by a very large extent one of the recent obtail maximum historicanus, and it would take from the to triber years to get buck the supply of teachers. He loyed the rese letten would be deleated as name Ging more non wanted, and he also loped that when Education came before Parliament, Gerrynmed at the Government, the Labour Headers would fight for the Beatle of there-

The Communication of the Research of the Education will be the Erecutive's Report, and dress attention to page 1,4 and 1,7 and 1,5 and

It was moved, seconded, and agreed to-

That the production and other resolutions on Education with the comprises of No. 2 on the paper is relieved back.

Mr. J. W. Knop (Domintos I indea Committee)

The Min Conferent average processes of the dates of Universitied and repplement the dates of Universitied and repplement Teacher, and stronger products against the present nector, which does not proceed for our manager to be and trackers in Thomselegy field to The present the teachers in Thomselegy field to The section of Superior Constitution and Supplementary Teachers of states, under a section of Schools attends to take the Healthy of Schools attends assembly these trackers are at higher educational attendanced that the Certificate

He said that in some town on orthogold to the large war societies is a high a surprise of the had hald as figures on the question and orthogold to the were seen with the received at the second to the part of th

The resolution was torn a? see milet

Mr. Historica Section at I the Continue Array of Continue by Sugar dethat the offers because to to the Executive by the National Union of Teachers, should be read Ter Serment Penns or Training,

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Notice of Medical that the Indianage Notice of Medical et also algorithm for the Astronia Conference of the Labour Party:—

That the transcence demonstrated and emprior the status of amorphism of anythrough the property system which does not provide for present system which does not provide for one conducted of examination to all transfers of observations. The present system depoints transcribingted and topposite they bearings to think, where experimentary transfers on which is always represented as the station of the present and the region of which although many of their trailing dry of higher polanications of start trailing dry of higher polanications of communications of the present that their polarity and the continue.

Upon the matter I beg to post but that-

- (i) It is open to the uncertainted and supplementary traders in question for an in the Trader's Cartiforns, and, on paramy that Cartiforns, and, on paramy that Cartiforns Executation, they become estimate to status as contributed feathers, to the tokey of certiforns trackers, and to the representation of cartifornial reaction, or vice to be appointed as final trackers, title represent, again velocities for that propose.
- (2) The int that the mercelluled and supplementary blackers have not been the Ensections in question in, in much owner, a dispersed of the examinent saight in the Ventus of Metter that many of them not of higher observational attainments then headen who hald the Corollade.
- (a) The policy of this Limin has long been to obtain that all Machine respicyed, after a perture date. In the echanic of the people shall been chosen their qualification to that important duty by pursuing a high standard of executation.
- (a) But this l'inter has not moght, if inner—and then that propose to meet—that the amerithmental and supplementary burders of proced companyon to the estants, and who as not working without qualifying thousandows for the Certificate in Jutice, choole to testables to continue to work in the achieve and no loss their secure of bestimon?

I should be glad if this letter may be read to the Conference in the course of any debate which may arise concerning this particular matter.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

T. H. J. UNDERDOWN.

President

A DELEGATE said he hoped the Conference would not commut itself to the view stated in the resolution. There was a good deal to be said for the statements contained in the letter just read. The N.U.T. asserted that opportunities did exist for such examinations. The London County Council had given opportunities to the uncertificated teachers to qualify, and if they failed to qualify they ought not to have the sympathy of the Conference. It ought to be insisted upon that teachers in all schools must be qualified. the conditions of the examination were too costly for the working class person to qualify the Conference ought to demand such compulsory training of teachers as would give every opportunity to the workman's son to qualify for the teaching profession. To support the uncertificated and unqualified teacher was the wrong way.

A DELEGATE hoped the Conference would not commit itself to the resolution as it contained a policy which would bring the Party into conflict with the N.U.T. The Party should have some regard for the policy of the teachers' union with regard to the employment of teachers.

Mr. Egerton P. Wake (Barrow Labour Party) said the Conference ought not to be put in a false position on the question. It might be perfectly true that the National Union of Teachers was the body most concerned in the matter, but it had to be remembered that the class referred to in the resolution were excluded from membership of the NUT. The point which deserved consideration was the fact that because these teachers were uncertificated Local Authorities were sweating them and thus helping to keep down the wage of the certificated teacher. Another fact was that there were not sufficient certificated teachers to go round if the schools were to be staffed properly.

MR W. C. Anderson, M.P. (LL.P.) said he was quite sure the Conference did not want to commit itself to everything in the resolution, but at the same time it did not want to be entirely unsympathetic to the claims of the uncertificated teachers. He would suggest that all the words after "Supplementary Teachers" on the third line should be detect and that would only commit the Conference to asking for an enquiry into the status of the uncertificated teachers.

It was moved, seconded and agreed to:—
That all words after "Supplementary
Teachers" in the third line be deleted.

The resolution as amended was put and carried.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Dr. Marion Phillips (Women's Labour League) moved the following composite resolution:

(1) "That this Conference declares that the organisation and decelopment of a unified Health Service for the whole community are questions of urgent importance, and that steps should be taken without delay to establish a Ministry of Health based apon Public Health Services, and entirely dissociated from any Poor Law taint.

It further declares .

- "(a) That to such a Ministry of Health should be transferred all the Health Services now coming under the Local Government Board, Beard of Education, Home Office, Prix Council, National Health Insurance Commissions and Poor Law Acts.
- "(b) That a Department for the care of Infancy, Maternity and Old-age, largely staffed by women, should be established, and increased fowers be given to Central and Local Authorities for work of this kind.
- "(c) That all duties relating to Housing should be transferred to the new Ministry, and that in this Department also the services of woman should be fully utilised.
- "(d) That there should be no representation of special interests, such as those of Insurance Societies in the formation of such a Ministry.
- "(e) That the Public Health Committees of the Local Authorities, with such further provision as is necessary in view of their increased duties on the lines of the composition of the Education Committees, should be the centres of local administration.
- "(f) That the Public Health Acts should be extended so as to include within their scope all those duties now so inadequately provided under the Poor Law, and all further services that are necessary to secure and maintain the health of the community."

Dr. Phillips said they were all in favour of a Ministry of Health, but the important point was that they should do their best to obtain it without further delay. The Prime Minister had accepted the principle but said that it was difficult to put into operation now. The women's industrial organisations believed that it could and ought to be done now. There had been several proposals before the country but the resolution contained a proposal on very broad lines, and amendments by the National Union of Clerks had been accepted, which made it still broader. The difficulty of accomplishing the formation of a Ministry of Health was the opposition of the vested interests of the industrial insurance companies. The resolution contained a clause that these companies should have no special representation in any Ministry of Health. The insured

person ought to have affects and the talket consideration, because the invested person was the rivine, but then should be no divert representative of the composition investance emplaces. In the proposal put torward by a section of the inversions societies was the suggestion for the approximent of a Central Advisory Deard to count, of eigrepresentatives. The was wholly against new such form of representation. A Ministry of Marith should be governed in the early way as other Departments and be under the complete democratic control of Parliament, until the Local Astronomy. Via resolution La transfer to care of the intancy became that was one of the root problems of the whole hould question; and the Department which boiled after the mothers and bulant slimits be largery Michel by women. However, which was also a bundlemental quantum, should be part of the work of a Ministry of House. The large in which the tuby was born was just as important as the mering school; and in the Department of Housing these thents have be wrong. The stated knowledge of remon with report to beliefe of the flow on found at thought personal About olgo of the builder. There was proved agreement on the question of a Muscley of Health but there was very lettle as Got Salara. and it was larged the translation, would be passed in a way that went I down that the upon the righter

Ms. H. H. Eives [N. U. Clerke in call)

Ms. C. Parserrer (Mandanter and P.C. of Labour Party) moved the hormony around ment

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The amen Invent was to make the re-

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Ma. 6. W. Jovens, st.P. (L.P.) in the name of the flavoration, supported the reads that, but he flavorations was been dead better than the control. The assemble of the control of the con

It was proved, seconded and agreed to

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The assessment was put and distinct last

Mr. Street Warn (Falson Smirty) said that the concreme of the Local George count, Board with the blue of a Ministry at Health had been moved, which must that that Department had come to the continues. Shart if could not clined up for the Own Line. any locate. It was proposed to alough the Beards of Coursians and transity the winds of the Poor Law to the York Contour; that wordhouse skinski crose to anse as portion tions, and the curv of the stell and letters, including injusts and the appl, should be perfectables by the Philip Health Committee of the Town Councils acting motor the Public Hastife Act, and that all children alde to atted when should pure to the Local Education Arthropy under the Education Airs; on that there would be , on your your Law shidow. There were to be notenotions to deal with the Unemployed and suthere were to six representatives of organises Labour. The committee would be called the Provention of Uncomply-most and Transing Comment and it would that with the whole of the work low the attached to ringly, with the elucion of what was would appoint a contribute to give boom another to these cases where home asset. one was the right thing. The delegates would make that the Bearist of Guarlians would be up in some against all thin. Henry delegate regist to report the matter in his Trade Opine beautify and get it to pure resbetween the the national demanding the instep towards the artabilehouse of a Mouse's 11101

Mp. I. C. Travers illust Northern Labour Furty; said that as a monthly of a Found or Guardians. In small point and that the daugates magnit to be obve to the establishm of The matter and been below the University of Guardians up and there the country was proposed up to design the opposite to the proposed. The delegates would be increased proposed. The delegates would be increased that the proposed the Trades Councils.

The resolution was put and samisd anamater.

REPORT FROM CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE.

Mr. A. Bellamy, on behalf of the Conference Arrangements Commmittee, reported that a request had been made for the suspension of the Standing Orders to consider the question of Man Power now before the Bloose of Commons. Considering the very large amount of business still to be transacted together with the fact that the Executives of the Trade Unions had had conferences with representatives of the Government on the matter, the Committee could not recommend the suspension of the Standing Orders. The Conference itself must decide.

Mr. Bellamy also reported that a request had been made that M. Renaudel, of the French Socialist Party, be allowed to make a brief statement on War Aims. The Committee recommended that leave be given.

MR, J. BROMLEY (Associated Enginemen) asked on whose behalf M. Renaudel would speak.

Mr. Henderson (Secretary) replied that M Renaudel would speak on behalf of the National Executive. During the week informal conversations had taken place with the foreign fraternal delegates in the hope eventually to arrange that other countries would accept the British War Aims as a basis, and after certain agreements had been reached it was decided as a matter of courtesy that a statement showing how far they had got should be made by one of the fraternal delegates. The statement would be made in the hope that it would influence other countries. Both delegates from France had agreed to the statement.

It was moved and seconded:

That Standing Orders be suspended for the consideration of the Man Power Bill.

Mr. Henderson said he never objected to the suspension of Standing Orders if he thought it was right, but the Conference Arrangements Committee had called attention to the fact that very important negotiations had been entered into and had been going on for some days. He knew nothing about them except what had appeared in the press, but those negotiations had been with duly appointed delegates from various societies, and the Conference could make no greater mistake than to ask the delegates present to do something which might conflict with those negotiations. There was another danger. The rank and file were inflamed at the present moment and the matter ought to be left to the Executives of the societies who were responsible. Finally, the Conference ought to try to do the business for which it had assembled, and he hoped the motion would not be carried

The motion was put, there voted

For ... 524,000

Against ... 1,437,000

and it was declared lost.

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The report of the Conference Arrangements Committee was accepted.

STATEMENT BY M. RENAUDEL.

M. Renaudel (speaking in French) said that during the Conference advantage had been taken of the presence in Nottingham of representatives of the Labour and Socialist Parties of various Allied Countries to discuss the arrangements for the Inter-Allied Conference on 20th February. With a view to promoting agreement on the general lines of the Memorandum on War Aims of the British Labour Movement, it had been informally agreed that this Memorandum . should be submitted, together with any desired amendments, to the meeting of the National Council of the French Socialist Party on February 17th, and at the same time to the Confederation Generale du Travail and that informal conversations should be continued in Paris before that date to discuss the details of the document. At the same time every endeavour was being made, and would be continued, to ensure by similar procedure the concurrence of the Labour Movements of the United States and other Allied Countries in the same Memorandum. The Belgian representatives had stated that they would be in a position, within a few days, to send to the British Labour Movement the adhesion of the Belgian Labour Party to the main lines of the British Memorandum. It was believed that in this way the whole of the working class organisations of the Allied Countries would be able to come to agreement shortly on their War Aims and then ask the working class organisations of the other belligerent countries whether they would take part in united action to establish a durable Peace ratifying a defeat of Imperrialism all the world over.

HOUSING.

Mr. W. Francis Moss (North Herts Labour Party) moved the following composite resolution:—

"That this Conference demands that steps shall be taken by the Government, without further delay, to arrange in conjunction with the municipalities and put into force a National Housing and Town building scheme which will secure to every citien the best home and working surroundings at a vental within the means of wage-earners, and bring the social advantages of town life within reach of the rural workers;

That overcrowding in the large towns shall be relieved by the establishment of new towns, and the reconstruction of the smaller existing towns, on garden city principles (including the reservation of a stretch of open country all around, the wide spacing out of houses and factories, the provision of gardens, allotments, and small holdings, and the installation of the most modern power-plants and labour-sawing industrial facilities and for this purpose to be compulsarily acquired and development financed by the State, and the whole enterprise in each case to be administered by a municipal authority or non-profiteering democratic body in the interest of the local community;

That pending the full operation of their teleme I wall did return which is missing and I wanted and telement them of the missing and the artists with persons the of any of a newtonian areas, and the creation of our parallands.

"And that where knows are urganity needed, are restrict as hall be roomed and qualified at once began eaker by the I all tath ray or by the Comment."

"In all such a home to some shall be made for a mallate a with interpretation of the property of the state of

Ms Moss and everyone-knew of the territor bounds; shortage at the present paramet. It had been stated that there was a startage of half a million houses. Nome thought Cost that was an under sumate, but, at any rate, the abertage in reach day by day. He was most particularly concerned with the part of the resolution which called upon the Governseent immediately to take steps for building new garden cities. By garden city they did not mean a garden suburb where only those who were more comfortably situated in limight have their residence. What was proposed was the building of bowns upon the Letchworth plan, taking into consideration all the advantages of Letchworth and profiting by its thirteen or hearteen years exper-sence. They wanted to build cities where the whole of the factories should be placed in one part and nowhere else and the shops in another part, so that when men got home to their own boson and garden there would be none of the sordid details of life-confronting them. All the high wages increased leisure and better status were nothing unless the workers had good homes to live in

Ms Descar Cassivians London Irades Council) seconded and said that garden suburbs to-day were not inhabited by the working class. If the resolution were put into operation it would mean health for the community.

Mr I can Price from A. S. Engineers and that while men were fighting at the front their wives and families were being existed from their wives and families by men going into evertemented areas buying house and evisting the tenants. It was urgently needed that the new Defence of the Realm regulation presenting victions should be extended to all magnitum areas in the country and not finished to extend requirements on areas.

Ms. Z. ANDSI we [North Monnocathed in Labour Party] separated the resolution and said he hoped the behavior would pay more attention to housing. He came from a mixing district, and he was surprised that the miners had not put down a resolution At the present moment in his district Urban District Councils were afraid if the Government and were holding up it plans although houses were argentic led. That

was the secut of working own being facilities of the reference with early the resulting the facilities and the facilities of the resulting the resulting that new hours are also be bount for the working.

It was moved, assended and agreed to :
That the pursues do now put.

The resolution was put and carried

CIVIL LIBERTIES

. Mr. C. T. Cover (Hallwaymen) moved the

That this Considerate calls upon the Parliamentary Labour Farty to take much style as tool propert the immediate restriction of the Circl Laborites willdown from the profile of the country areing the stress of the framework theory are at the present European War.

He said that the young marbood of the nation had volunteered to fight to the strength of the declarations made that in was a fight for Domorracy and Liberty, but since those declarations were made the shackles of military and crysl despotism had been fastered on the people of the nation to an extent not previously known a streament effort ought to be made to mesopy these shackles. For example he would refer to the present lack of control over the Executive of the State. Now there was legislation by Orders in Council, and it is was thought that the House of Common would disagree with any proposal it, was a very simple thing to carry it out by Order in Council. Not only was there in a control over the Government by the House of Commons, but there was also look of control by the people over the House of Commons. The Conformer, both in inpolitical and infestrial espacity, regit not only to demand the soutoration of Civil Liberties but should some them.

Ms Natt S Hearing Ship Assistants serveded and said that his Discon had hear two meetings broken up at a time she the were endeavouring to estate the test of a drapery type in tolarous that pad on the way.

Weekpeaple to a matter but the grantame and broke it up on the pictures and tooke it up on the pictures. It that we all the same and tooke it up on the pictures at the same and tooke it up on the pictures. It that we all the same and the examine the meeting and the same as the labour Matter than the same that the service their than the service their than the same than the service their than the same than the labour Matter than the service their than the same than the labour Matter than the same than th

That the position was put and carried

NATIONALISATION.

MR. DUNCAN CARMICHAEL (London Trades Council) moved the following:-

That the Labour Party press for the Nationalisation of all the means of Freduction, Description and Exchange.

ife said that all the delegates were aware of the power exercised by the landlords. Thuse who came from the North of Scotland knew how people had been driven from the land into the towns and overseas, with the result that this country had to depend on other lands for foodstaffs. The time was now tipe for the Labour Party to claim that the Land for which our men were lighting in France should belong to the people. The factories also ought to be nationalised

The resolution was formally seconded and carried, and the Conference adjourned for the day.

FRIDAY'S SITTING.

The Conference resumed at 9.30 a.m.

NEXT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

MR. A. HENDERSON (Secretary) said that under the proposed new Constitution the Annual Conference of the Party in future would be held in June instead of January. The custom of the last two or three years had been to leave the Executive to decide where the Conference should be held. It ought to be decided whether this was to be done again.

It was moved, seconded, and agreed to-

That the National Executive decide the place of the next Annual Conference in June.

CONSCRIPTION.

Rt. Hon. J. H. Thomas, M.P. (N. U. Railwaymen) moved the following:--

That this Conference rec rds its strongest opposition to the permanent institution of Conscription in this country, and demands the withdrawal of the Military Strate Acts immediately upon the conclusion of the present War.

He said this question was bound up absolutely with the question of Peace, because unless they secured a democratic Peace, a People's Peace, it appeared to him that there would be no alternative but an armed Europe and all that might follow. The men who had gone into the Army for the War would obviously be anxious to return to civil life; the danger would be the possibility of the authorities seizing the boys of 18 to make Conscription a permanent institution. The resolution was moved with a view of keeping the question right to the front, and he hoped the Movement, regardless of other differences, would stand four-square and declare against Conscription as a permanent institution.

Mr. W.W. House (Swindon Trades Council) seconded the resolution and hoped the delegates would bear in mind that they were pressing for a Ministry of Health and fuller educational facilities. What, he asked would be the use of these things if the youngmen were only to be made fit as food for cannon?

COUNCILLOR F. W. CARTER (Ealing, Acterand Chiswick Labour Council) supported the resolution and said the Conscription Acts had landed them where they never expected to be. He hoped the Movement would hight to kill Conscription once and for all

The resolution was put and carried unant mously.

FOOD SUPPLIES AND PROFITEERING

MR F BRVIN (Dock, Wharf and Riverside Workers) moved: -

That the Motion limiting specials be suspended during the discussion on Food Supplies and Profiteering.

The resolution was seconded and agreed to

MR. W. C. ANDERSON, M.P. (L.L.P.) moved the following:—

" That this Conference protests indignantly against the shameless profiteering which has been permitted in many directions since the outhreah of War, and especially in the food supplies of the people; it deblares and condemns the weak vacillating policy of the Governm nt which would seem to have been directed largely towards conciliating the vested interests; and in view of the increasing shortage of many commodities, the high prices which place them beyond reach of the poor, the upset and dis cation which will have economic consequences for years to come, and the grave danger of approaching world famine, this Conference declares that the Government in its handling of the food problem should have regard only to the public welfare, shou'd establish the distribution of available supplies on a family basis of share and share alike, should eliminate completely the taint of profiteering, should take full advantage of the services of self-re iant agencies like the Co-operative Movement and should insist upon a real equality in sacrifice between all classes.

He claimed that on this question the Movement had been constructive and the only practical proposals which had been put forward had been those of the War Emergency Committee and Labour generally. After fighting for these proposals for months some of them had been taken up, admittedly half heartedly, by the Government and very often after a large part of the real effective ness of the proposals had gone by the lapse of time. The remedy which might be applied with effect to-day might be too late two months hence. A little time ago when it was claimed that the action of the Ministry on Food had dispelled queues, he had pointed out that the remedy applied by the Ministry was a mere surface cure and did not get

fown to the cost of the carry as all ar a that unless for poors drastic or time was taken the queue would reappear to a more acute form. Lost was now bayyoning thosen, and children some still having to small in queen. This was had been the standpoint of Smilth; if was calming between britaling it was creating a very dangerous industrial saturation; and there was no about that or serval be largered to regulate future classes-Marrow unless they got down to the root of the parter and such acting to organic had supplies and find distribution on a better tures. The President of the Itsuel of Agriculture had stated that they were to a beinggree city, but the authorities had not intel is it they were. There had been too much extraorquier at the one end and increasing persons was being belt at the other and of the mand walls, first, became beed topping our really libert, and, meanthy, became the high prives deburred many of the poorer people from setting their share. It had been said that the policy of persons Community had been a propey of "Too late," It seemed to nim that the policy of all Covernments was in damper of being " too late " because they refused time and again to do the said ought to be done at the moment when they sould be done with effect. The action of shortly after the outbreak of War was izoghed At and criticised, but he was convinced than but for that organisation, but he that lovesucht, Germany would have been economically beaten to the dust long ago. Silveng action ought sow to have been talous in this country. long ago. The land system in this country execouraged agriculture and the pealertion of food. He know of cases where people were wanting land to caltivate. There was plenty realiable, but the whole thing was held up by the yested healed interests and nothing had been done. They there were the game laws and the postrictions upon the river-These was lead in the rivers, tool in the taken, game on the hand, and there could be were these they made up their month whether inve test place. For aunting and less destroying valuable lood -all that was point an sale by sale with extraoraganes at the filts and other places. With repaid to price it was said that if they were regulated by comb admission in that? It meant that the would do in Cong. The conductor was that the real Food Controller was Captioning to more than Lord Sthouble or the Monetry of Final. On the encode were the soldiers endating the nexal and again in the trenches, and on the other goods spining house out ettal problems shaping themselves. compe, sith runn to the digitalism of milk they could be seen in it that who every the Ministry ought to be compaled, and mpt voluntary because many of the Land

Compared to by the Market of Find ness reactionary hodies and were not doing their work, restod between being the Ministry Half Rail not get full powers. The Minutey had to school all its plans and propossile when it wanted to include a new policy to how the Lind Stines and Last Curson. and these men much same any new departmen Hat wer adequal. The portion was become Congression, Figures was company name Through, Agrees every beligness. menty is Lyon. They was a good Election 10 of 17 years ago who over 1 2 great marvelling accuracy what had improved in the World He signing of great across ma-Trustien, the reproduct power of the sixtensive, the automorphist and used of the attack; see he showed that wife the development of methysism it would become more had nonfor one army to a and exact slower another. That writer also read that For weat hig War would be writed not in the seal by figuring as all but by nativitial farmer. Such by sain with the persons lood structure was the increasingly Compressed influenced positions. A worldstight he distances from the standpoint in woulding a description Property Passer. There rear head for restraint but there was also provide that wise and their years of the Converse. ment. The great Co-sperience Movement Ead the person and the topicity to undertake a long part of the politics it it got the The problem would not be assent shames. though becausey but though beam organisation of the working people increalised The real leaves from this book question were berning irro the minds of the people. They now then of the pustions and now hearwas The Condensation of the peticy of themwho had one the meanty is the past. It was time that Labour acres he its migraty and power, took the head problem and all other problems into its sen hands, and measured that for all time to sume Labour was going to sented the senter and week set its own mirror is as pub war.

Ma E Bayes Block, Which and Riversaid that at the Landon Conference on First synthe ago for bandy corner statements such regard to the distribution of stalls especially noted. The Publiculatory Describery to the Manutry of Food had great and that their would be an exquiry less the charges to tool made. It had been ourported that a letter had been ment to him but he had tell reasted it. http://doi.org/10.1001/ had seen the Supert of a New Zolland Con-cession which demonstrated the treels of the charges in had such that the Assertion Most Treet controlled practically the whole of the sent supply. A very national development, which he thought now doe to a very hope action to the propert must showing had below place. Cortain prices were fixed for English most on the advice of this need

distributors in London. There were different prices for October, November and December, the lowest price coming in December when the cost of maintenance was actually higher, with the result that beasts were killed off, and the meat problem had been dealt with by deliberately inducing the farmer to sell in October and November the main portion of his meat. The final result was that the people were absolutely at the mercy of the American Meat Trust. In his own vity a rationing scheme was decided upon. It was signated to the Food Ministry, and was in their hands cleven days, and it was not until the men declared a strike that the sanction of the Department could be obtained. On the same Food Control Committee representatives of the Railwaymen made the astonishing revelation that while they could not obtain meat or bacon or fats themselves they were daily handling from certain firms whole sides of bacon going to lords and ladies away in the rural areas. The political influence of the rich was preventing the introduction of a national rationing scheme. Lord Rhondda had been asked to receive a deputation on the question of meat and he had replied that no good purpose would be served by receiving a deputation from one of his own Food Committees because the release of foreign and colonial meat was in the hands of Sir Thomas Robinson, of the Board of Trade. going to the devil and asking him to save you! Another thing the Food Controller did not seem to appreciate was the effect of transport on this problem. At the moment he was attempting to feed three millions of people in London through Liverpool. With the present position on the railways it was impossible to feed London from Liverpool or In his judgment the whole policy Glasgow. of the Admiralty was wrong. What was needed was greater protection round our shores and the ships to be taken where the populations were. A Consumers' Council had been suggested. He would suggest to his friends with Trade Union responsibilities that the problem could not be dealt with by giving a few hours per week to it. He would appeal to the leaders not to fool with If there was to be a Consumers' Council let them put the best men in the Labour Movement on it. Let them devote their whole time to it and be paid by the Labour Movement and not by the Government. When Peace came the real effect of famine would be felt and it would take years to get things right. Finally, he would appeal to Mr. Clynes not to develop into an apologist for his Department, but rather to help Labour face the question and in return Mr. Clynes would get the best Labour could give.

Mr. J. R. Leslie (Shop Assistants) said he wished to expose the dilatory methods of the Government in dealing with the food question. The rivers in Scotland were teeming with fish, and a returned soldier only a few weeks ago was actually denied permission to have one day's fishing. Dozens of deer came down last winter and devoured the crops of the farmers. Was there any

reason why the cities could not be provided with cheap venison when there were thousands of deer ready to be shot? It had been stated that the Government were prepared to do everything possible to help in the cultivation of the land, and yet to-day in the Highlands people were prevented from cultivating the land. Everyone who desired to cultivate the land ought to be allowed to do so.

Mr. J. Bromley (Associated Locomotive Enginemen) said it was quite plain that the Government for at least two years had had a most vacillating and procrastinating policy with regard to the regulation of food supplies. As to whether the Conference by striking a serious note could at last get the Government to realise the position was doubtful, but on behalf of his organisation he wished to say that if the Government did not soon do something a lead would be given to the Trade Unionists of the country in how to deal with the Government. He did not wish to pose as a rebel or to suggest that his organisation was desirous of strikes, but after all human endurance reached a limit some time. pathy would not fill locomotive-men's food bags. Railwaymen had reached the breaking point. The workers were being allowed a certain amount of food calculated to keep them going for six days' work per week, but his members were working ten and twelve days per week, and with what were known as double trips, they were not getting any thing like the amount of food required to keep them going. They were actually going to work hungry, and they were not going to stand that long. His members were already refusing to go on duty in the circumstances, and his Union was going to back them up in so refusing when they had no food.

Mrs. Mills (Federation of Women Workers) protested against the Government or the Food Controller not taking more drastic steps to deal with the farmers. The Food Controller had set a certain price and the farmer insisted upon having his pound of flesh. That meant that the milkman had to put up the price of milk or he would be selling at a loss. It had been proved that as much profit was being made in 1917 at 5d. a quart as was made in 1914 at 3d. a quart. The reason why a higher price had been fixed was simply because the Ministry of Food had to do so on the instructions of the The Food Controller fixed the farmers. price for the retailer but did not state at what price the wholesaler should sell to the retailer. The supply of margarine was also a very sore point, and when she went back to Barrow she would not be surprised to find the whole of Vickers' walking the street. A few weeks ago when there were many homes in Barrow without a bit of butter or margarine, about 71 tons came to two shops; that was enough to give every household one pound, and if it had been properly controlled and distributed everybody would had had some. She hoped the Government would institute a rationing scheme for all goods. She could see no other way out of the difficulty.

MR. J. R. CLYNES, M.P. General Workers, said he lead listened to meet of the speeches and whilst he might refer to two or those points dealt with in them, he would have to restrict himself to two or those general issues arreared by the renderton. Mr. Beron had stated that he knew something about transport and it was known that he slid, but he [Mr. Clynes] knew from what Mr. Bevin bud said that he knew nothing about the food question. Mr. Herin had stated that the Food Controller had no power over ment but that the power was in the hands of Sir Thomas Robinson. He would like Mr. Eevin to produce the letter alleged to fave been sent by Levi Rhemble to that effect. At the last Food Conference Mr. Bevin male some very sense statements regarding meat and dertain hems dealing with that article. He at once asked Mr. Bevin by letter to furnish the facts in order that the matter might be dealt with. Mr. Bevin now stated that he had not received the letter. He (Mr. Clynes) would see he did get it. Mr Bevin talked about the folly of leading Lember teem Liverpool, but Hiskenberd was the great receiving centre, and all that was being done in respect to using Liverpool for London was to supply London as far as possible in order to make up for the less suffered through other searces of supply being stopped. He could assure Mr. Bevin that they were doing their very best on the question of transport. He dal not wish to appear as an apologist either for the Government or for his Department. They were not proposing to institute the Consumers' Council as a means of sheltering themselves. The Council was not yet estale ished Immediately after be announced the proposal in the House of Common in the middle of December he approached the secretaries of the principal Labour besies and afterwards wrote to them before Christmas succe ting that they should make these appendments. These organisations were very but the Council had not yet been constituted argent as the problem was. The Departnect was awarting its creation; they wanted its guidance and a vice. Those who came on it would not be bought by the Government nor paid by the Government. The Department did not wish to select persons who might be suitable from the Department's point of view. He would go further and my acceptable to such a Conference as this and the Conference itself would like to bring a body into being corresponding to Ma-Myndrean's ulea of a Committee of Public Switty, and if that Committee selected a Fund Controller, and if the Government would not have that Food Controller, be would at least resign his position and support the Contempre in whatever it might do. Coverament-was aware of the queues, of the suffering and privation due to shortage. It was because the Government had to deposit open proper backing in the country and the support of the people that it had to do everything within its power to case the situa-

to be about the period of the man time the Donntament was deposited by HE VETY SOUTHWAY UPON BORNEY SUPPORT IN the mostly and non-ners working make and day diving their very heat in the public Spinstered Mrs. Mills had parationed the case of sold and the position in Payron because the Fixed Controller had hard a maximum price for said, but the fact our that the Consultry on which he understood Mrs. Mile set had power to in any pro-It kind which to its indepent out a proper price in the obsumenation of the morner. The Post Control Committees could by the retail gries of mile. Mr. Beels fact stated that the most priors facil in September note fixed by some dealers in London. He could source Mr. Herin that earling of the kind hoppened. An Advisory Controller Sad New draing with the question, but received Argustations from all the different interests representing the co-operative point of when, representing the ferment, the agriculturalicts, the dealers and others, therein gone into the matter der a couple of months. having their what they thought in the communion interest was the proper gran, and having been condensed by the larmers and the most dealers for Easing the procetoo kee, it was rather hard lines to be talk possible after that the priors were hind in the interests of the most dealers in London and by the most desires thousanders, Mr. Dryin had stated that as a result of these priors bearts had been killed off wholesale and the markets glotted. Did any of the didegates notice a glot of most about that tion f . It was common knowledge that there was to such glot of most of that tous. Mr. Double now stated that the pospie some at the server of the Assertion Ment Trust. That was totally entree. Indeed to wide they midd be at their money to some nation. during the period of startings. They were dependent almost wholly at the moment opin their own tattle, and arring that comtime ago as much as 40 percent, of the most was topered and that the drawy was led with impurped mean, the underlying cames of the secretage could readily be enderstood Mr. Brein slaved to may that a release of national retireing was not opposed because of political informs; 'He (the Opinio) was distressed to had all extravagual instrument ed that kind made at a Labour Controver The Ministry of Food Stamed its model for rationing some time ago and next it out to all the Local Fred Contettors; there could he so someth of commoning except through the administrative action of the Local Fund Authorities Over two bundled believes worn now in load or in working order. Schools were moving day by day and were being rapidly unclosed after the Blandry worm asserted. Shart controls local clustered across som pupelly proped. Shortup was the natoriying to see of the queen and shortage was a difficulty that could not specific to pressure by a Youd Controller, who could but work mirrors and present field. All he could do was to try and source equivalent distribution of what food there was. Let

any man who supposed that the rich were being favoured, that the homes of the wellto do and hotels of the well-to-do were being favoured, do the Ministry the favour of giving some facts in support and he would have the joy as a Labour man of being the first cause of presecuting those who were violating the law Prosecutions had been numerous but in many instances the punishment had not been severe enough, and he was therefore empireered to say that very shortly a I'all would be introduced that would not only impose fines and imprisontheat but would ensure that in future anyone who charged excess press or indulged in producering, or who mannived round the Orders of the Ministry, would have to pay a penalty that would be double the amount he had derived from fleering the public Lord Rhondda had taken note of the complaints from Labour quarters with regard to and this was what Lord Rhondda desired him to say . "I conceive it to be my paramount duty to protect the interests of the consumer, and especially the poorer consumer, and that I am seeking to do; and I am willing to increase the membership of Local Food Committees to allow of more representation of Lalam, of Women, and of the Co-operative Mesoment "Continuing, Mr. Clynes said that the Ministry was asked to commandeer tood, but the act of commandeering would tend to diminish the food rather than increase it. Goodwill could not be commandeered. A body of workman might be subdued after a long and bitter struggle, an employer might conquer them through hanger and get them back to the workshop on his terms, but those men would soon find a way of getting their own back. Food producers must be dealt with as those men should be dealt with. They must convince, they must arrange for goodwill, they must buy goodwill, they must settle the problem upon terms mutually acceptable and beneficial both to the food producers and to the mass of consumers in the country. The Ministry had fixed the price for both the live beasts and for dead weight of meat. Right down from the cwt. of beast to the lb. of meat in a retail butcher's shop the price had been fixed, and by that arrangement the whole meat supplies of the country were now commandeered; that was to say, the cattle dealer—the farmer in the first instance-must bring his cattle into the Government pen. There it must be graded and classified so that the proper price could be put upon it and only that price paid. Having secured the meat there was the problem of distribution. There had been enormous waste in distribution. Where was the sense of say, sending cattle from Scotland to London and then perhaps cattle from Kent to Scotland? What the Ministry was trying to do was to supply each area from the nearest source. By these and other means the Ministry was seeking to ease the situation and to solve the problem. With regard to margarine, the whole of the margarine factories in the country were now under absolute Government control and no

Company could act to the detriment of the small shops in any neighbourhood. In all the other primary articles of necessity there was the same principle of commandeering by arrangement. With regard to production 200,000 new allotments 10 created in 1917. The total number of new allotments was certainly not less than hali a million, and it was estimated that the total number of allotments in England and Wales was not far short of one million. Over a million tons of vegetable products had been added to the general food supply. The Food Production Department was making every endeavour to elect a furths, merease of at least 50 per cent, during the course of this year. Within the present year 12,000 acres of ground had been taken up by allotment helders. Another point he wished to touch on was that of communal kitchens. and to say that in this matter the Local Authorities had grossly neglected their opportunities. That was not too strong a term to use. The Lood Ministry undertook to provide a considerable share of the initial establishment charges and the outfit necessary to make a beginning with these food kitchens There were now nearly 200 of them, but there ought to be 10,000. The kitchen they had in mind should not be a charity organisation anair-it could be and ought to be self maintaining—one to which any class of workman or his wife need not be ashamed to go. In order to stimulate the extension of these kitchens an expert with good administrative qualifications had been appointed and his duty would be to urge upon the Local Authorities the necessity for extending communal kitchens throughout the country He had said at the last Conference that the desired end to be reached vas to register consumers at particular shops, giving each consumer in the first instance the choice of shop. Having made their choice they should be kept there and the shops supplied with whatever was the proper share of what was going. He would repeat seriously that that was an end that could not be reached by waving a wand or sending out an order or passing a resolution; it was an end that could only be reached by getting busy in the different centres, doing what Birming ham and other places had been doing co-operating heartily and actively with the Ministry of Food. Whether the delegates liked it or not and whether they thought it or not, he regarded the Ministry of Food as an institution concerned only in meeting the interests of the mass of the consumers. Take the rabbit, for instance. After laborious investigation and two months of time taken up, 28, was fixed for the rabbit, and at once they were told that there was none on the market. That was an illustration of the difficulties of the problem. He thought he could safely claim that the rabbit would come on the market. All they had tried to do was to prevent the poorer people being robbed by being charged 4s. 6d., and up to 5s., for a single rabbit. He did not appeal for any mercy, he did not ask the delegates to take him as a person entitled to their

months because of their time in the but he did ask them to throw in their stock of omprovement. He did not the a to be a tackle the problem and to ellar in the lates. It was the easent job in the world to those out a hint about "downing busin while saying they did not want working man to That was a service thing for surposable bades. They had but down their War Alms and they were making for Germany to speak. Meantime there was greater used for unity, greater pend for national compount than ever. They might have to wait some time, they were beganning to feel some of give privations which the Germans began to ind two evers upo. Ware they as desecrate to show that they were willing to softer provition in the person of a democratic netherant of the War ! Others were saided they were willing to fight for the ferms of actorsey, willing to corter in the interests of gonesiation. willing to again in the interests of militarian Were Distail evelues to sleep themselves saligon to nother in the permit of the Power Terms to Was Alms which Lakens had laid dien's I the natural them to realize that the rivilian possilation could not so in Juring the War and expect to within a to be the name as in times of Pours; out the coulden proposition at the name time was entitled to see that there who had been see to respond to Bil they lived best to brest the peace like the rate for alsees all in the matter of heat, if there was to be projective that preference most be given, at the Minjury stady and salt to the most of the monitor workers and to the industrial possistion whose like it the the nation demanded that they should be even better (od than the rich pooper in the limit

It was coved seconded and agreed to

The its grand, as he as find

The resolution was put and carried

THE POSSERIPTION OF WEALTH, WAR FINANCE AND TAXATUR.

Ma Prair Stores MP (IIP)

"First Confinence and delically insulation the prevent pulsar which has been followed by reposited Commissions to send the a found here being the Black of Julies which the country of the the publication in the Archime great in garages trees, the Conference the area line the Lampeterson's should have sended forement well the experts of the provide the left classical at the left by Column The said the Taxables of Capital had been selected of the helt density against the at the second of And the sale of the sale for the sale of the sale For rel the Champion of the Karboner will proceedings the fluid of a Joseph sain of seasons and or made dead to propose a fire are prompted to easy of James Tax topos at large screens, and for a substantial Lory

He sail that the Controvers had thread a married of biggertast proposed of hebselving and avoid return. Each and all of those proposals measurement for aspenditure of yant ayes, of public movey. They had not formetre how it the sleep below the War the graction alongs in the meaning or some madeste release was the aligner districtly of finding the street, For the years an application was materialised for (768, full Pernot use that's he had become will stook or three milions per year. They much therefore expect that when the War was pent, when the county was tabled with a National Debt of actions un or seven thousand pullbook, with the recently of internal himblers. amounting to six or oven landful milious a year for collinations already incomed, that they would be found again, but in a year expensed from with the secondary of their who sees are tile that artificial about he made to make the material transition for the purposes of sevial return. It was therefore of either manager that Labour should must open the limited of the War being to tall area, the meetry or to love the least non-able backen for the dark abor the War. The very aspects policy had been facted out from the first notional of Wat. They were not eyes your rolling for itsention sufficient to lear the indeed upon the debt recorred and the cost of the ried administration of the country. According to a make rount enals for Mr. Renar Law in the House of Commune, there were aprucing new at the rate of dispersonmen is vego. These was being raised by baradies this year for purposes of the war, pur tree I processed. They had not raised by baselies during the War meseverth of the expreditor some the Wat. They were paring in estimate again the data already accommissed uses Coveraged gratificals and owing to the raising the learned upon the Natural Date Decrees on a year more had been past in interest than on 11 here been accoming it the take of become had been praintained at the figure setting in the softense of the The serent fact of the matter was that in middle of the in-remod forcess for well to do people boller, were getting time from the smoothly than the smoothly was triking from them in the form of increased benefits, That was fire painty the Convenient had been parrying not lead it it was pursued the country would be emitting by frontyful burtle copics. The mislerness was first that the and led it have "It that been said that they would bed the about of basses along the Mart. It was after the Mar Mar that they sould teght to fed the priors of the outrop SAINCED policy alight the Consequent was mry periods. They said not expect the persons industrial properties to evenious affect thatthe had beet mentionedly incomed there; the Wat. At the ordered of War the rivil treatmen worked and at 25 ner broudy a court to that it was don a cour sk! If up t not Night when the War was been that redirect treation would be believed. raised, he articipated the higgest light

when Peace returned would be over who was going to pay for the War. The resolution asked that the Government should continue to tempt, the profiteers to invest their illgotten gains in Government stock, and that the Government should begin to finance the cost of the War not by Joans but by a capital levy upon the accumulated wealth of the nation. At the outbreak of War the annual saving was about 2300,000,000; to-day it was trebied, that was about £1,000,000,000. This increase and the money which was being invested in War Loan were war profits Therefore it really amounted to this, that the Government were allowing enormous profits to be made, and then they tempted back these profits by offering an exorbitant rate of interest. The War should not be financed by loan but should be financed by the taxation of the profits of the well-to-do.

The resolution was seconded, put, and agreed to.

FURTHER TIME LIMIT FOR SPEECHES.

It was moved seconded and agreed to,
That movers of resolutions be allowed five
minutes, and subsequent speakers three
minutes.

LAND TAX.

MR. FRANK SMITH (Lambeth L.R.C.) moved the following:-

This Conference declares that as an essential means for destroying land monopoly, Parliament must impose a Tax on Land Values.

He said everybody in the Conference would be up against land monopoly, and there were several proposals as to how it should be destroyed. Some suggested that the land system should be revolutionised, some were ready to buy out the monopoly, and others wanted to legislate it out. He did not mind legislating it out but he objected to buying it out. In taxation they had a key that would open the door. He asked the delegates to pass the resolution and open the road to progress.

The resolution was seconded and agreed to.

INCOME TAX AND WAGES.

Mr. W. A. Robinson (Liverpool Labour Party) moved the following:-

"That this Conference instructs the Parliamentary Labour Party to take such steps as may be necessary to secure that the undespread discontent resulting from the present system of Income Tax shall be allayed:

- "(a) By raising the minimum amount upon which Income Tax may be levied from £130 per annum to £200 per annum.
- "(b) By insisting that Income-Tax shall be levied on the standard weekly wages only, and not upon the total weekly earnings of the workmen.

- "(c) That, for this purpose, amounts paid as extra allowances over and above the standard rate of wages, and earnings due to overtime, shall be kept separate and distinct from wages in the returns made by the Employers to the Surveyors of Income Tax
- "(d) By placing the burden of Income Tax upon those best able to bear it by a steeper graduation."

He said that wages had been reduced by the increased cost of living and now they were saddled with income tax. In some towns men in the engineering trade had allowances for wear and tear of clothing, called dirt money, and when they travelled they had allowances, and then they found they had to pay income tax on the lot. That was a grave injustice for those allowances did not in any way compensate for the increased cost of living.

The resolution was seconded, and agreed to.

EXCESS PROFITS TAX AND CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

Mr. M. Crossley (Sowerby Division L.R.C 1 tormally moved :—

"That this Conference, re-affirming its protest against the levying of the Facess Profits Tax upon Co-operative Societies, and the continued threats to bring co-operative savings within the scope of the Income Tax, pledges itself to give every assistance to the Co-operative Movement in their attempts to defeat the attacks being made upon them by preate commercial interests, and as a means towards this end welcomes their decision in favour of direct political action."

A DELEGATE seconded and asked the Conference to send a message of encouragement to the first Co-operative Parliamentary Candidate now fighting the Prestwich Division and ask the workers in the Division to support him.

THE CHAIRMAN said that the question of a message being sent to Prestwich must be referred to the Conference Arrangements Committee.

The resolution was put and carried.

SINKING FUND.

MR. W. BENNETT (Guildford Trades Council) moved the following:

"That, since all Co-operative, all Municipal and all National Capital and the War Debt, are subject to sinking funds, thus ensuring an end to their claims upon production, the Labour Party adopt as part of its programme, the compulsory extension of this principle to all land and capital."

The resolution was seconded and agreed to.

CONCLUSION OF BUSINESS.

It was moved, seconded, and agreed to.

That the Conference sit until the lusiness is concluded.

Elil Calling

the following arrended Resolution on relieation was formall, novel so mist and carried -

"I hat this to n'erone con rec. the I distance for a new first over, and demands that the present that he brought up to that standard. It washes to continue that no charge of durational management, America desirable and necessary, and third after a real docution and in the of the criminal interestments in this expanses in the raising of the wheel age, and comilar reforms, at drawn the astendion of the Labour M count to the fir tems of I do at a itself, and declares

(1) That the judicy of starring the I'e mentary Son of by a maning of the the Louve stages of Edwardson to processed to the best interests of the to street classes, and that to a live should be trained so as to enable them to ten h the higher bind, of Lementers I In stin and a male the Hamentary School a centre of real culture and I ducation

(2) That the See adary and Techni al Schols shall be free and fon to all canalize of making use of the opportumiles posseled to de clop their individual aprindes

'(3) That the Universities should also be free

"(4) That I decisional Endowments should be taken from their frencht mingretied was and fout at the dieg sal of the laises for whom they were originally left

"(5) That all forms of a valuonal training as fart of the general educational system of the country should be Systems of of to red

"(6) That I division in the various aspects of estizemship should relate for more than at present to the real life of the pe fle and the development of the DC (3/2) PE

"(7) That physical training, which is essential to s and I do at a night not to be based on muldary training but should be a builty devel sment under healthy conditions, and be contribut by the hors protective train I and continued for such

FLECTORAL RLFORM

Mr. H. H. Elvis (N. U. Clerks) formally moved the following !-

"That this Converse out of the new measure of Lie to a Levens as a conferment only, and registers its often a faul as settlement and be nativially which also not include :-

"(a) The extension of the feanthise (both for Parliamentary and Lai Government elettrins to all adults, male and female.

security of the qualifying paying by main ability may be plaint on the

by The perfectional representation of all optiation) and astronals by ename of the single trensposite out, with avenification entersing of heal for

The along of public bound foreign the foreign of public bound storing to The residence of placed storing and the pumper disputitionalist or Parliamentary and Local Local Bortoll physicians

That the Puriosuming Suprice of telescie is the Explain of Point for all abdoms of Local Authorities.

Mr. W. Hanne (Mother Labour Party) seconded, and the production was surried.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION A 12 TIMES AND ADDRESS.

Mr. P. W. Conn (British Iron, Steel and Kindrel Tantes, Federation) moved the Delivering resolution :-

"That this Conference is of the opinion that the existing Law of Compressions for infestrial accidents segurify repoint reconstilluling us a broader and more tilered lanta, and ganned he adequately death with by amendments only partial in extent, and having expert to the next measure agreed to by all parties interested—the Workinson's Compression (Bur Addition) Advancy a If an emergency secured only, sails aften the Generomend to a placed, without further to key, the Committee of enquiry into the appreciant and administration of the Windows's firm position Att, promise to May, 1514, sellthe year to this important pullint of moles securative fallong the freely place an furth of the unknown of annual recovary within, in such effect at the and of the lifer, and to be immidial as one of the functions of a Ministry of Houth."

"This Conference Swiller recommends that any peeredity All shell lish: into morand !-

"(a): That Scotion 1 [1] shall be assented or so to read "if its step employment. personal injury in the mounts of the employment the injured purchase shall be entitled to compresenting united the accorded in assemed by the mittled sugfers or sighted of the worksors, court of peoplining file of when the employer,"

"I" Dittendings that comin heatening from fire accidence mostlying the drack of not feet than four years' flell wager for total dependency, and that the exemings of other hashand or note skell and affind payment of compress. tion at he total dependency in the grand of the denth of miles of them.

An enjoyed manners referring to more and mentile in once tolor for of links technica into project bearing emission to the few difference between the normage before and after the o...deni

(d) Section 2 (1) to amended so as to provide that failure to give notice of assident shall not be a har to obtaining ampensation.

(c) To provide that any person disabled by a disease which is due to the employment shall be entitled to

compensation,

(f) Doctors holding positions in Hospitals Informaries and like Institutions, not to be permitted to supply reports to employers or Insurance Companies without the written cons not the insural param. If consent is obtained the workman to be supplied with copy free of charge.

igt The workman to have equal right with the compleyer for the commutation of weekly payments, by a lump

sum settlement.

(h) Compensation to commence from the first day of accident.

- (i) Parment of a weekly allowance, equivalent to a full winking week, arrespective of any time lost through allows, in tement weather or any other unawadable cause.
- "(j) That when the weekly compensation of a minor is commuted by payment of a lump sum, regard should be taid to prospective earnings, and not morely commuted on the basis of the earnings at the time of commutation.
- the That the extmanshill a the required to work for a greater number of hours per week in such employment than the number of hours worked in a number of hours worked in a number such in the trade ampleyment in which he was engaged during the 12 months precident the occident.
- (i) That the disease or sickness caused by inhalation of poisonous fumes or dust be included in the set.
- '(m) That safe and against inhouftly of the employer or insurance company to make def."

The resolution was seconded and agreed to.

PAYMENT OF EXPENSES OF LABOUR REPRESENTATIVES.

MR. T. TIMBERLAKE (London Society of Compositors) moved the following:-

"This Conference is of opinion that the expenses of (Labour) representatives saving upon all public bodies and Committees should be paid out of the public funds, and uses upon the Government, (and especially upon taking immediate steps to secure the complete recognition of this principle, and pending the adoption of this reform decides to resuscitate the fund which was used for the payment of M.P.'s to provide the nucleus of a fund for the payment or part payment of Labour members on Local Governing bodies, such fund to be administered and controlled by the Party Executive."

He said they all knew of the difficulty in getting labour representatives to sit on the various authorities because of the cost involved. The necessary expenses ought to be found.

The resolution was seconded.

Mr. H. H. ELVIN (Clerks) moved the tollowing amendments:—

Line 2 ; Delete " Labour."

Line 5 : Delete " and especially upon the Minister of Labour"

He said it would be unwise to expect preferential treatment for Labour in a matter of this sort. They ought to ask that all representatives, Labour or otherwise, should have their expenses paid.

The amendments were seconded, put and carried.

The resolution as amended was then put and agreed to.

ABOLITION OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS

The following resolution was formally moved, seconded, and agreed to:-

"This Conference dulares that the House of Conne is shall be the supreme actionaly in all matters of national legislation and finance, deciares that a heriditary thumber such as the House of Lords should be absished, and expresses its confirmed off sition to any form of Sec na Chamber, whether elected by the House of Commons or otherwise."

CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS.

MR. ROBERT SMILLE (Miners' Federation) moved the following :--

"This Conference demands the release of all Conventions Objectors who are non suffering intersonment contrary to the powersions of the wildness Service Acts and, further, protests against their disfranchisement, and calls for the repeal of the ciause in the Representation of the Poople's Bill."

He said the resolution demanded the imraediate release of com- ientious objectors who were in prison. There were at least 1,000 Trade Unionists amongst them. There were over 4,000 men in penal settlements or prisons for conscience sake. He would rather be forced to a particular kind of worship than be told he would have to kill if he did not want to kill. They had seen how vio dictive the courts had been to conscientions objectors. A well-known Labour man - a postal workerobtained exemption from a tribunal eighteen The military authorities had months ago. age in talen him before the tribunal which had upheld the exemption. The military authorities then appealed to the Sheriff, who put the question: "Are you an International Socialist?" The man answered in the affirmative, and the Sherifi said that he had no patience with such people and they ought not to be allowed to remain in the Jost Office. The important information handled

there ought to be left to people who e ald be trusted. That was a marked to a judge to make the boped the Labour Members would not allow a judge to state that because a man was an International Socialist he was not to be relied upon.

Ms C G. Assured Terror bay Labors Party; seconded the second and and be was not asking for pity or compared to be to ask the Conference to see that passes was shown to the passes as passed in an Act of Parthament. He has no frees who had been to military series. The emen went to prism a self-set any true of mainty and they seem see in limits. If it and had been to there is a gift relation to the serve.

The resolution was put and carried

GOAL CONTINUES FIRE PLOYS

A Tremere moved the following ;-

Transporting that the Local Governing that is not real of francia with position of transporting that the following the following that the following the same of the following that the position good, with represent of Ladence and Marchana's following that the following the following that the following that the following the

Ma. W. E. Written (Balley Clerks)

The following resistant was bready moved, accorded and agreed to

"That this Contents in of opposing that I be assessed in the telepart of the property of the country that they placed by many adequately expressed often all Local full-roller, and that a circular chall be a 2-141-7 to the various Trades Union. Trades and Color Council and other lating agittand in the National Labour * Proces, hopping them to pullers we do not see policity conditates to represent the Labore consent upon Local Systemat Purity that provide to be provided as the contract of of Ballour, upon Loyal Authorities, it to on frontier that no wombers of Load Authorthey already to place their community on according the most opportunity, done to apply and a beautiful able sum by may by releasing, and that the Labour Members of Purferment about to regard for horsest Department for all in your below. Parties that petal such lighted in a period, Trade Center and Trades and Labore Crumolis pilmid he arged to emphise a fund to the payment of Labour Mpaties upon

LABOUR REPRESENTATION ON PUBLIC COMMITTEES

A Departs (Louis Scatter) Committees moved the adjusted

This Conference and the president was assured to the following the following the president was a series of the president with the president was a series of the president with the president was a series of the president with the president was a series of the president was a se

serges upon the Conversion, and expensely upon the Minister of Labour the national for our reasons the proportion of Labour expressions at the proportion of Labour expressions at the three of expressions being a too past for the control of expressions being at the control of
He mind that in all cases Labour represents these more happenedly not assisted because of the presence He there is not the presence of these Compatitions, the third as the President Committee, the Military Service Tythought, and senior bodies, steady by compound of at least one half Extensions to company of the presence of at least one half Extensions.

The residation was recomind and agreed

MACHITERIAL EXPENSES.

A Departer (Worsels Trade Count) morel the following resistors -

"That, failing only committee on the fail shat Labour to describing and recrease explanations on hing steeled literatus, undefaulte, that such Labour Magnitudes are long united agent to they fined ferry the apportancing to their other fine Laughreem to of represent that the Frenty Economics themse take along to their the first Economics themse take along to their planes of reclusions and the state of the

He sold that his Council had accommend his men to serve on the Bench and the Lord Livelenant had sampled two. These two Lord his go to the unexty howe to be named in and showard in the mount had no go to the unexty howe to be named in and afterwards bein of them proceed a loft too his goldene-two primes for the bingle force of men had. He Council left that is named and you had. He council left that is named and you had they want doing no in the paint, advent, and they want doing no in the paint, advent, and they want of special to be active that any engineer of paint to be made to be paint. They had the same to be paint of the same of the part of the same absolutely polymed to pay to the singuing the same hand that

The broduction was six under and agreed in-

CONDITIONS OF SOLDIERS

A Delimate (Pealled Trains County)

The residence was an analysis of

The following resolution was also formally moved, seconded and agreed to :-

"This Conference, recognising the great hardships which are imposed upon the wives and dependants of sailors and soldiers on account of the tremendous increase in the cost of living and the meagreness of their separation. All counters, urges the Government to establish stores in all towns and districts and to supply the dependants of the men with the Forces with food supplies at cost price."

INCREASE OF RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST (WAR RESTRICTIONS) ACT, 1915.

A DELEGATE (Tyneside L.R.C.) moved the following:

"That it be an instruction to the Labour Members in the House of Commons to press forward for an extension of the Rent and Mortgage Interest (War Restrictions) Act for an indefinite period after the termination of the War."

MR. W. T. WILSON, M.P. (Westhoughton Labour Association) formally seconded and the resolution was carried.

INSURANCE ACT ADMINISTRATION.

MR. J. E. DAVISON (Friendly Society of Ironfounders) formally moved the following resolution, which was seconded and agreed to:—

"That this Conference calls upon the Parliamentary Labour Party to use its influence with the Government to allow State insured persons to transfer from one approved society to another."

A DELEGATE (St. Helens Trades Council) formally moved the following resolution, which was seconded and agreed to:—

"That this Conference calls upon the Labour Party in Parliament to press for the removal of the restrictions placed upon members of approved societies in regard to the transfer of membership from one approved society to another, believing that this restriction is an injustice which presses very heavily upon those Trade Unions administering the National Health Insurance Act."

HOME RULE FOR INDIA.

MR. J. CAVANAGH (Hull Trades Council) moved the following resolution:—

"That this Labour Conference endorses the policy of 'Home Rule for India,' believing that the time has arrived when our brothers in all parts of India are capable of controlling their own affairs, equally along with South Africa, Australia and other British Dominions, and hereby pledges itself to assist in every way possible to bring about this much desired reform; further, we desire that all Labour Members in the British House of Commons shall do all in their power to bring pressure upon the present Government, without undue delay, in order that these people shall be given their just rights, which have been due to them throughout all time, including the right to self-government."

The resolution was seconded and agreed to.

THE BLIND.

Mr. R. D. Smith (League of the Blind) moved the following:—

"This Conference urges upon his Majesty's Government the importance of taking the steps necessary to give effect to the recommendations contained in the Report of the Departmental Committee on the Welfare of the Blind; and that the education of all blind children be placed under the care of the educational authority."

He said that unfortunately there seemed to be a misunderstanding in the Labour Movement as to what the blind really wanted. Much sympathy had been expressed with those individuals who had been disabled in the War. The blind were suffering an affliction over which they had no control and he claimed similar treatment for them. Something had been done for the blind recently, as a department had been set up within the Local Government Board charged with the welfare of the blind. This Committee was composed, as Government Committees usually were, of people supposed to have experience, with the usual result that the workers had been absolutely left out. The Committee was inadequate and doomed to failure unless some representation of the blind workers was allowed. The National League of the Blind must be represented on the Committee and he asked all Labour Members and all Trade Unions to do their utmost to help in securing this representation.

The resolution was seconded and agreed to.

MOTHERS' PENSIONS.

Dr. Marion Phillips (Women's Labour League) moved the following composite resolution:—

"That this Conference welcomes the campaign for Mothers' Pensions, believing that Pensions adequate for a healthy and useful life should be paid to all widows with children or mothers whose family bread-winner has become incapacitated, and further, that such Pensions should be paid by a Committee of the Municipal or County Council wholly unconnected with the Poor Law."

MR. T. Hamilton (Edinburgh Labour Party) seconded the resolution, which was agreed to.

WORKING HOURS.

A DELEGATE (Sheffield Trades Council) moved the following resolution which was seconded and agreed to:—

"That this Conference affirms the principle of a six hours' working day."

MR. J. GILBERT DALE (Prison Officers' Federation) moved the following resolution:

"That this Conference deplores the long hours of duty imposed on the officers of H.M. convict prisons in England and Scotland, which vary from ten to over eleven per day actual duty, and when gross time is counted, including petty meal-time reliefs, keep officers tied from 5.20 a.m. to 7 p.m. in some cases, and from 5.30 a.m. to 5.50 p.m. in others: night duty sometimes involving absence from home from twelve to thirteen hours per night.

"Further, this Conference is a factorial that the Government and adjust has so on of long hours of day and including Ireasury grants during War time, it is also of office that the Conference at hours to so fee day, and set a latter example to conference of half are outside the Conference of the area outside the area of t

He said he was glad to inform the Conference that size the modulin was district the half been an improve a first size with the to take the operation, of aging that prison officers were a very the holy of men and most willing to do their lat is wartime, but they felt the table is majorovement on the lines of the resisting by some adjustment.

Mu J. Maxrox [11.P] seconded and spoke from personal and utilize expenses as to the operous conditions under which prison war let had to see the local test they would be able to secure a reduction in their working heart—indeed be would be glad at some future Conference to support the complete absolutes of their working hours!

The resolution was agreed to

OLD AGE PENSIONS

The following resolution standing in the name of the York Labour Party was formally moved, seconded and agreed to

"That this Conference, realising the intense suffering of the Old day Personal that the German transmit in the fire on the same that the German to be for such and that the Pensionalite Age be reduced to 5.

EXTENSION OF TRADE BOARDS ACT

A DELEGATE (Shop Assistants) moved the following

"This Conference is of of me in that in now of the extremely is a relieve to the extremely in a relieve to the extremely in a first transport of the extremely in distributions. The Concernment is half immediately and into the Concernment is half immediately and that are relieved to the extremely and that are the extremely used to the extremely and that are there is conference to the extremely and the extremely are the extremely are the extremely and the extremely are the extremely are the extremely and the extremely are the extremely and the extremely are the extremely and the extremely are the extr

The resolution was seconded and agreed to

1911 108 ATTOO AT 1 A WELL ALL

Ma Z. Asizers (North Monocollabor Lateur Party) moved the following results

That this Conference is of opinion that the lines has arrested when, for the bought of the world ad large, a large-up should be laught through analysing the markets of the small or analysis and large upon proof one will another without word of interfectors.

He said that the International language that ought to be taught throughout the world was Experients. His believed that is this tanguage was taught it would gut an end to War.

The serie to a was selled of and size of the

AFTER THE WAR

A Decease Life Assertance Agency speed the delivering resolution which was seconded and agreed to

That they Comformery incomes the Labour Party in the Mount of Communication on provy adopted and to the American Companies that Industrial Labs American Companies that they well reconstition, where the dame from and conformation or great to the West, on Agents recovering from 111s Manually's arrests.

VOIDS OF THANKS.

Mr. T. E. Navyen (Lember Society of

That a hearty puts of fearing he asserted to the Charteners.

He said he thought the emission would be an assumedly agreed to in view of the able and willful manper in which the Chairman had reache ted the homess of the Controller

The resistion was seconded and agreed to with applamation.

THE CHAIRMAN extremed his Charles for

Ma. W. C. Antoniana, M.P., mored -That the hast thanks of this Continuous by given to the Local Emphisis Committee

He was sure the delegates would agree that taking jets assumed the difficulties this was on assument of the Wire, the Recognizes Committee had done their work surveillantly well. Everymen test that this Conference was going to prove a landmark in the lattery of the Labour Perty, and he mixed the Conference to prov their best thould be the Committee who had done as usually a resident in a surveil.

The resistion was assembled and agreed to with sectionation.

Ma I M Class morel -

That the heat thanks he associate the Perist.

He said that whatever their belongs might be with regard to the Press they could not do without it.

The resolution was secondard and agreed to; and the Chairman Aerhard the Conference at an end.

APPENDIX I.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE LABOUR PARTY

(As adopted by the Party Conference held in London, on February 26th. 1918),

I.-NAME.

The Labour Party.

2.—MEMBERSHIP.

The Labour Party shall consist of all its affiliated organisations,* together with those men and women who are individual members of a Local Labour Party and who subscribe to the Constitution and Programme of the Party.

3.--PARTY OBJECTS.

NATIONAL.

- (a) To organise and maintain in Parliament and in the country a Political Labour Party, and to ensure the establishment of a Local Labour Party in every County Constituency and every Parliamentary I orough, with suitable divisional organisation in the separate constituencies of Divided Boroughs;
- (b) To co-operate with the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress, or other Kindred Organisations, in joint political or other action in harmony with the Party Constitution and Standing Orders;
- (c) To give effect as far as may be practicable to the principles from time to time approved by the Party Conference;
- (d) To secure for the producers by hand or by brain the full fruits of their industry, and the most equitable distribution thereof that may be possible, upon the basis of the common ownership of the means of production and the best obtainable system of popular administration and control of each industry or service,
- (e) Generally to promote the Political, Social, and Economic Emancipation of the People, and more particularly of those who depend directly upon their own exertions by hand or by brain for the means of life.

INTER-DOMINION.

(f) To co-operate with the Labour and Socialist organisations in the Dominions and the Dependencies with a view to promoting the purposes of the Party and to take common action for the promotion of a higher standard of social and economic life for the working population of the respective countries.

[•] Trade Unions, Socialist Societies, Co-operative Societies, Trades Councils, and Local Labour Parties.

Intenhall sal

(g) To competate with the faller and home of the state of the same
4 PARTY PROBLEMS

- (a) It shall be the daty of the forty to become a both to the the control of the first and be produced by the Court of the first and be produced by the National I would be another by part of the the court of the first and the court of the
- (b) It shall be the duty of the National Landon starting of the Party prior to every General Party in define the priority and the priority of the priority of the priority of the particular Landon Campaign, which shall be expected as a contract to all constituencies where a Labour sandulate is starting.
- 61 It shall be the duty of every Parliamentary representation of the Parlia to be guided by the decision of the meetings of such Parlia tracks of the Parly Conference as to be Parly Programme of the Party

5 - THE PARTY CONFERENCE

- I The work of the Party shall be under the decrease and contribute to the Conference which shall itself be subject to the Constitution of the Party. The Party Conference shall must require to the earlier also at such other times as it may be convened by the National Executive.
 - 2. The Party Conference shall be constituted as follows
- (a) Trade Unions and other to a to a utilisted to the Party may send the gate for each thousand munious on which less are part.
- (8) Local Labour Party delegates may be either men or seems content as having a place of business in the constituency they represent and shall be appointed as follows:—
- In Borough and County Constituencies returning one Member to Parks ment, the Local Labour Party may appoint one delegate.

In undivided Beroughs returning to a Members, two felerates may be a presented

In divided Boroughs one belogate may be appeared for such separate concepts within the area. The Leval Labour Party of the Livided Books and the central Labour Party of the Livided Books and the sentral Labour Party of the Central Labour Party is said Livided Books may appoint one delegate.

An additional woman delegate may be appointed by each consistency in which the number of addition and indication women process caused year

- (a) Trades Councils under Section 8 slause a shall be out thed to one delegate
- (d) The members of the National Lacrative including the free receiver members of the Paragreentary Lacrate Party, and the Lacrate Paragrees of the Party Conference last at a members of the Party Conference last at a mean delegates, have no right to vote

6.—THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE.

- (a) There shall be a National Executive of the Party consisting of twenty-three members (including the Treasurer) elected by the Party Conference at its regular Annual Meeting, in such proportion and under such conditions as may be set out in the Standing Orders for the time being in force, and this National Executive shall, subject to the control and directions of the Party Conference, be the Administrative Authority of the Party.
- (b) The National Executive shall be responsible for the conduct of the general work of the Party. The National Executive shall take steps to ensure that the Party is represented by a properly constituted organisation in each constituent in which this is found practicable; it shall give effect to the decisions of the Party Conference; and it shall interpret the Constitution and Standing Orders and Rules of the Party in all cases of dispute subject to an appeal to the next regular Annual Meeting of the Party Conference by the organisation or person concerned
- (c) The National Executive shall confer with the Parhamentary Labour Party at the opening of each Parhamentary Session, and also at any other time when the National Executive or the Parhamentary Party may desire such conference on any matters relating to the work and progress of the Party, or to the efforts necessary to give effect to the General Programme of the Party.

7.—PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATURES

- (a) The National Executive shall co-operate with the Local Labour Party in any constituency with a view to nominating a Labour Candidate at any Parhamentary General or Bye-Election. Before any Parhamentary Candidate can be regarded as finally adopted for a constituency as a Candidate of the Labour Party his candidature must be sanctioned by the National Executive.
- (b) Candidates approved by the National Executive shall appear before their constituencies under the designation of "Labour Candidate" only. At any General Election they shall include in their Election Addresses and give prominence in their campaigns to the issues for that Election as defined by the National Executive from the General Party Programme. If they are elected they shall act in harmony with the Constitution and Standing Orders of the Party in seeking to discharge the responsibilities established by Parliamentary practice.
- (c) Party Candidates shall receive financial assistance for election expenditure from the Party funds on the following basis:—

Borough Constituencies, £1 per 1,000 electors.

County Divisions, £1 158. per 1,000 electors.

8.—AFFILIATION FEES

1. Trade Unions, Socialist Societies, Co-operative Societies, and other organisations directly affiliated to the Party (but not being affiliated Local Labour Parties or Trades Councils) shall pay 2d. per member per annum to the Central Party Funds with a minimum of 30s.

The membership of a Trade Union for the purpose of this clause shall be those members contributing to the political fund of the Union established under the Trade Union Act, 1913

- 2. The affiliation of Trades Councils will be subject to the following conditions:
- (a) Where Local Labour Parties and Trades Councils at present exist in the same area every effort must be made to amalgamate these bodies, retaining in-one-organisation the industrial and political functions, and incorporating the constitution and rules for Local Labour Parties in the rules of the amalgamated body.

- (6) Where no Local Labour Party is in existence and the Trades Course is insharging the political functions, such Trades Course I study lead, the size of a Local Labour Party, providing that its rules and title be extended as as to reliable Local Labour Party functions.
- (a) Where a Leval Labour Party and a Trades Course it crist in the same and the Trades Council shall be challed to be additional to the Local Labour Party, but not to the National Party, except in such cases where the Trades Council was a stored to the National Party prior to November 1st, 1917. In these cases the Labour council was may be deemed necessary.
- (d) Trades Councils included under Section is shall pay an assemble of sec.

Local Labour Parties must charge individually care led numbers make a minimum of its per annum female of per annum; and of per received to the Centra Office with a minimum of you as the at late of such Local Labour Party.

In addition to these payments, a delegation for of 3a, to the Party Conference any Special Conference may be charged.

APPENDIX II.

THE STANDING ORDERS OF THE LABOUR PARTY

1.-ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

- 1 The National Executive shall convene the Annual Party Conference for the month of June (but not at Whitsuntide) in each year, subject to the Constitution and the Standing Orders, and shall convene other Sessions of the Party Conference from time to time as may be required.
- 2. In the event of it being necessary to convene the Party Conference upon short notice, in order to deal with some sudden emergency, the Secretaries of the a librated organisations and Local Labour Parties shall, on receiving the summons instantly take such action as may be necessary to enable the Society or Constituency to be represented, in accordance with the rules.
- 3. Any Session of the Party Conference summoned with less than ten days' notice shall comme its business strictly to that relating to the emergency, which cannot without detriment to the Party be postponed.
- 4. Persons eligible as delegates must be paying bona fide members, or paid remanent oficials of the organisation sending them.
 - 5. No delegate to the Conference shall represent more than one Society
- c. Members of affiliated organisations claiming exemption from political contributions under the Trade Union Act, 1913, shall not be entitled to act as delegates.

2.-AGENDA.

- Notice of resolutions for the Annual Conference shall be sent to the Secretary at the Orice of the Party not later than April 1st, for inclusion in the first Agenda, which shall be forthwith issued to the addited organisations.
- 2. Notice of Amendments to the Resolutions in the first Agenda, and Nominations for the Executive, Treasurer, Auditors (3), Annual Conference Arrangements Committee (5), shall be forwarded to the Secretary not later than May 16th, for inclusion in the final Agenda of the Annual Conference.
- 3. No business which does not arise out of the Resolutions on the Agenda shall be considered by the Party Conference, unless recommended by the Executive or the Conference Arrangements Committee.
- 4. When the Annual Conference has, by resolution, made a declaration of a general policy or principle no motion having for its object the realizmation of such policy or principle shall appear on the Agenda for a period of three years from the time such declaration was made, except such resolutions as are, in the opinion of the Executive, of immediate importance.

3.-VOTING.

Voting at the Party Conference shall be by Cards issued as follows:-

Trade Unions and other affiliated Societies shall receive one Voting Card for each 1,000 members or fraction thereof paid for.

Trades Councils affiliated under Section 8, clause ϵ , shall receive one voting card.

Every Local Labour Party shall receive one Voting Card for each delegatement in respect of each Parliamentary Constituency within its area.

Central Labour Parties in Divided Boroughs shall receive one voting card.

4 NATIONAL INTELLINE

- I The National Describe shall be elected by the Asy of the see of a whole, and shall consist, apart from the Treasurer of a 13 mg see in the set the affiliated organisations. It has recommended by the Land Labor Parks and the Land Labor Parks and from three lasts of nominations.
- 3. Each Parliamentary Constituency organization. Singly its Local faborants or Trades Council, may no make one can hister for Let it, and the parallel see proximated must be resident on have been place of the commuting Local Labour Party.
- 4. Each amplitude organization shall be control to consider the facts for List C, and two candidates if the complexible result is considered as the considered of the result of the resu
- 5 The National Exercises shall elect its own Charmes and Van Charmes at Its Constitution and Standing Orders of the Party. The National English shall present to the Annual Consenses a Report constitution and pages of the Party during its year at office, for there with the Party during its year at office, for there with the Party during its year at office, for the with the Party during its year at office, for the with the Party during its year.
- No member of the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Dalles Compress is eligible for nomination to the National Executive.

A TELASURER

The Transper shall be elected expansive by the Alexand Conference Bank at like the representation may expense a sandblate for the Tonor with being about of any other possibilities for the National Executive

6 SECRETARY

The Secretary shall be elected by the Annual Sarty Laborator, and have a plant resembler of the Conference | be shall described a black has a the sarty but thus shall not prevent him being a Conference of the shall remain in only as along as his sort, gives a facilities to the fact and East-tive and Party Conference of the Annual Conference of the Executive shall have tell powers in the remain, subject to the approval of the Annual Conference must be approved of the Annual Conference must be a subject to

Nomingtons for the other shall be on the sizes and these as for the Treatmer stip.

I ANNUAL CONFETSING, ABBUANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

- 1. The duties of the Conference Arrangements Committee
- by To attend at the piece of Conjecture two days to be the the purpose of arranging the Conjecture Appella
- 2. To appoint Scottingers and Tellers to the Consequent of the delegates whose names have been used at the line Office pair to the sist such appointments to be subject to the appoint of the Consequent
 - to To act as Standing Orders Committee during the Conference
- 2. She bling of the five members of the five level of the five level of votes amongst these not she had be sufficiently the sense of th
- 3. Remuneration of the Conference Arrangements I waiter, Services and Fellers shall be at the rate of 15s, per day.

APPENDIX III.

CLYDE DEPORTATION INVESTIGATION.

As the result of discussion at the Manchester Conference, 1917, a Special Committee, consisting of Messis. Robert Smillie (Miners' Federation of Great Britain). Albert Bellamy (National Union of Railwaymen), John Hill (Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Ship Builders), Tom Shaw (United Textile Factory Workers), and A. G. Walkden (Railway Clerks' Association), was appointed to investigate the ircumstances relating to the deportation by the Government in March, 1916, of David Kirkwood and other workmen employed in munition factories in the Clyde District.

The Committee decided that the scope of their investigation should be expressed in the following terms:—

- "To enquire into and report upon the circumstances which resulted in the deportation of David Kirkwood and other workmen employed in munition factories on the Clyde, and to ascertain whether the men in question were deported without any charge being made against them and without the option of a trial in a Court of Law;
 - "Whether Mr. Arthur Henderson was a party to this action;
 - "Whether the Amalgamated Society of Engineers acquiesced in it; and
- "Whether the action of Mr. Henderson and the Amalgamated Society of Engineers was in any way inimical to the interests of Trade Unionism."

In October, 1917, the Committee presented a very full report of their investigation to the Executive Committee of the Party. This was printed and supplied to delegates to the Nottingham Conference, and issued to the general public at the rate of 6d. per copy, post free 7d.

The following is the summary of conclusions that the Committee of Investigation arrived at .—

- 1.—Neither Mr. Kirkwood nor any of the other workmen deliberately organised the Strike or consciously endeavoured to prevent the delivery of any particular munitions of war.
- 2.—The Strike was a spontaneous outbreak on the part of the men and a protest against the restrictive actions of their employers. It formed the culmination of a long period of industrial unrest arising out of the arrangements made for the dilution of labour and the decisions given under the Munitions of War Acts.
- 3.—The unrest had been accentuated by the special restrictions placed upon the workmen and by their apprehension as to the introduction of "Industrial onscription," also by the continued increase in the cost of living which was held o be due to profiteering by unpatriotic traders.
- 4.—The Special Commission appointed by the Government in the Autumn of 1915 "to inquire into the causes and circumstances of the apprehended differences affecting munition workers on the Clyde" reported in December, 1915, that many of the workmen's grievances were justified, and an endeavour was made by the Munitions of War (Amendment) Act, 1916, to remedy the causes of some of their grievances.

- 5. There was a substantial grievasire at included I we is seen to all the desire of the works. To be the form of the large of the part at 1916, were tartle four taking and the transfer the works were tartle for the part at the works were that Moore Part the far little previously accorded to Me Barkwood as there are which were intended to a see this result.
- the The greenance of the workers was not have proved and had not been placed in the hands of the and having regard to this fact and the provides at Market and the failure to comply with the Islaham Agreement of the Tanana to the Strike was irregular.
- The incidents which precipitated the strice of the first hand of kirkwood on the 3rd March, 1916 to said the first introduced women were employed, and a simple strice of the Mill Department although the first hand of the Manager of that Department with respect to an experience over which a difficulty had arisen
- 8 When Mr Kirkwood visited other Departments of the Wassan to the purpose of avoiding or removing difficulties of the manufacture with the consent of the Manufacture at and the process of the Manufacture at and the process of the Manufacture at an information of the manufacture at an information of the manufacture at a second of the process of the manufacture at the hard become Class to the test of the manufacture and they having exercised it for many months) believed himself to process of the manufacture at a second of the manufacture at the manufacture a
- 9 The facility claimed by Mr. Kirkwall and Sale and Sale and an arrangement of that kind was being March, 1916, at the works of Messrs. Earr & Stroud Ladin and a strong and an agreed notice printed by that firm.
- 10 -A working arrangement made at Woolwich Amenal in 171 1 1 1916, between Sir Vincent L. Raven and the District Secretary of the Society of I agineers was analyzed in many record to the Engineers at Parkhead Works and we think it an excellent the shop agreements
- 11. Since this Strike Mr. Kirkwess I's successor in the office of Shop Stewards (Mr. James Clark) has exerted the proceeding the dispute and the deportations arose.
- 12.—The point at issue was diverted by Sir Wim. For the set the gradual shop Committee for the purpose of the Port the 26th January, 1916. The Shap Stevantic Countries of the Port the 18th in the Works, and the Deputation than before Sir Wim Leader the Committee. If the position required to be regularized, he should to the Deputation that they should get the Shap Sir and Countries to act under the Accountries of the Municipal Sir and Countries to act under the Accountries of the Municipal Sir and Countries to act under the Accountries of the Municipal Sir and Countries of the Sir and Countries
- 13. The Shop Stewards and the other men was a saw that the indefinite of the Munitions of War Act but we do not been in an acute degree from a general sense of injustice.
- 14.—In view of the national crisis and the entransity of the Munitions factories and the new Regular conducted by order of the Ministry of Munitions of a straight two-left have been to the general advantage for U. The Land of the Regulations, and particularly the arrangements for the Initial and Sandal and in the Engineering Shops.

15.—On the question of the claim of some of the workers to complete control of the Munitions l'acteries, the leading representatives of the Clyde Workers' Committee and their organ. The Werker advocated the view that labour should be allowed to share in the administration and control of workshop arrangements, especially in factories which had been brought under the control of the Government. They denied having stipulated at the meetings addressed by Mr. Lloyd George in December, 1915, that Dilution would not be agreed to unless the Works were handed over to their sole control, but both Mr. Henderson and Mr. Lividen Macassey, who were present at all Mr. Lloyd George's meetings, asserted and reiterated that claims of that absolute character were made by members of the Clyde Workers' Committee.

16.—It is quite conceivable that during the somewhat heated controversies which arose at the meetings referred to in the previous paragraph, one or two of the speakers amongst the audiences made an unqualified claim to complete control of the workshops; but it was made clear to us that the desire of the leading members of the Clyde Workers' Committee was that there should be a system of joint control operated through the Trade Unions in conjunction with the Government and the management in the various Munitions Works.

17.—Mr. Kirkwood and the nine other Engineers were deported without any charge being made against them, and were not afforded a proper opportunity of being tried in a Court of Law. The idea of deportation is one which is very repugnant to British constitutional instincts, and we are amazed that the Government, knowing the intense feeling which was aroused in consequence of the Deportation of Labour Leaders from South Africa in 1914, should have adopted a similar method of dealing with a Labour difficulty in this country. The intervention of the Military Anthorities in any industrial dispute almost invariably yields a sequel of bitter resentment, and we are strongly of opinion that it is infinitely preferable that all such matters should be dealt with entirely by Joint Labour Boards or Commissions, or, in the last resort, by the Civil Authorities.

18.—Whilst sympathising with the anxiety of the Army representatives for the ininterrupted production of munitions, and appreciating the personal kindness eviced towards the individual deportees by the Competent Military Authority who dealt with them, we must say that the evidence shows that the ordinary Military attitude of mind is quite unsuited for solving Industrial problems.

19—We think that instead of getting into consultation with the Military Authorities and the Procurator Fiscal, the Dilution Commissioners should have intervened in the dispute at Parkhead Forge, and endeavoured to call the men and the Management together, along with the District Officials of the Trade Unions, for the jumpose of enquiring into the grievance, and, if possible, finding a remedy without resorting to the very exceptional methods that were adopted.

20.—The Dilution Commissioners did hold a formal Inquiry and took evidence from the workmen and the Management after the departations had taken place. In our view it is unfortunate that they did not do so before the Strike commenced, or as quickly as possible afterwards.

21.—With regard to the Clyde Workers' Committee, we consider that it sometimes sought to usurp the functions of the regular Trade Unions, and to disregard their most important responsibilities. We strongly disapprove its actions in this direction.

22 —The constitution of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers is exceptionally democratic and affords adequate provision for dealing in a proper constitutional manner with any matters in which its members are concerned, and we maintain that trade questions and guevances should in all cases be referred to the responsible Umon offscials. Further, that if any improvements or changes in the organisation or administration are desired by any members of Trade Unions they should advocate the same in a constitutional manner through the Branches and other machinery of the Unions,

23.— There was no justification for the allegation against the District Committee of the Amalzamated Society of Engineers contained in the Strike Manifesto of neglect in regard to the question of the employment of non-Union soldiers and the alleged under-payment of unskilled men employed for Dilution in the 15 inch Shell Shop at Parkhead Forge.

24.—The consents to place the greezes reparting the cost A or of the Place Shop Stewards' rights in the hands of the Odd and the A or greeze the place the Laplaces was alternated by the A. F. Francis Consent to the Laplace to workers Consented of which must be the laplace to ware provided the Chyde Workers Consented of which must be the laplace to ware provided the consented to the laplace to ware provided the consented to the laplace to ware provided to the laplace to ware provided to the laplace to ware provided to the laplace to the lapl

25. Mr. Karkwool ind not dony that on the set if it is sent to Parkhead Form in December 1918.

Lateur both Mr. Arthur Herders at My I for the interview of the doopted a mine attitude which interviewed to Wr. E-wool. Attitude to the interviewed to Wr. E-wool. Attitude to the interviewed March 1716, 1518.

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The We are of opinion that the Analysis of the series in the transposition of the Chyric William Committee the Drug day as then of the Chyric William Committee the Drug day as the committee of the A.S. In 18 and a quies on the latter than the Chyric William of the

27. With regard to the action of Mr. A that Harden is to all the base set forth whose that although an a resident of the topological and accept the a Gotton responsibility to be resident and the second and have advised the purey which was a first to be a first later than the could be could be set to be a first later than the could be could be set to be a first later than the could be set to be a first later than the period during which they were unsurployed. We made specification the disporters regarding Mr. Hernberg of and their grants was that they be not complaint to make against him.

R SMILLS Clarent

A. BELLANY

1. Hitts

I. SEAR

A T. William Strategy

1 tober 31st, 1917

APPENDIX IV.
LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCES.

| Year | Place of Conference. | Chairman | No. of Delegates | Membership. | Income of General Fund. |
|-------|----------------------|------------------|---------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1000 | Lovbox | W. C. STEADMAN | 1961 | 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 | ** |
| 1001 | MANCHESTER | I. Honge | 0.00 | 300 000 | |
| 1002 | BIRMINGHAM | W. J. DAVIS | 110 | 460.311 | 280 |
| 1903 | NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE | J. N. BELL | 24.5 | 861,150 | 5 2 |
| 1001 | BRADFORD | J. Hodge | 355 | 906,000 | 1,000 |
| 1005 | LIVERPOOL | D. J. SHACKLETON | 348 | 000,000 | 1.305 |
| 1000 | London | A. HENDERSON | 363 | 021,280 | 2,050 |
| 1001 | BELFAST | J. J. STEPHENSON | 347 | 908.338 | 2,768 |
| 1008 | Harr | W. Hunson | 404 | 1,072,413 | 1,780 |
| 1,000 | Portsmouth | J. R. CLYNES | 300 | 1,152,786 | 2,057 |
| 1010 | Newport | J. KEIR HARDIE | 2448 | 1,486,308 | 3.053 |
| IOI | LEICESTER | W. C. ROBINSON | 460 | 1,430,530 | 0.000 |
| 1912 | BIRMINGHAM | BEN TURNER | 47.4 | 1.539,092 | e |
| 1013 | Losbos | G. H. ROBERTS | 516 | 1,895,405 | 21,5204 |
| 1014 | GLASGOW | Ton Fox | 551 | 1 | 8,207 |
| 9101 | IRISTOI | W. C. ANDERSON | 600 | 2,003,365 | 20,002 |
| 1017 | MANCHESTER | G. J. WARDLE | 752 | 2.219,764 | 11,833 |
| 8101 | NOTTINGHAM | W. F. PURDY | 879 | 2,465,131 | 1081,11 |

† Including all balances on amalgamation of General, Special and Parliamentary Funds. * Excluding (18,000 Treasury Bills realised. * Two years (1014-5). * Including Special Appeal Fund.

APPENDIX V.

THE PARLIAMENTARY LABOUR PARTY.

| CONSTITUTORY | | Votes poined in December Earth |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Aller helle | W C Andrew | THE . |
| Barrow-in-Furness | C Duncan | diller |
| I'de kirners | G. N. Harnes | 4.274 |
| Dalton | R. Tassill | 1.0 |
| Barrard Castle | A. Henderson | 4.865 |
| Bradford, W. | F. W. Junett | 338 |
| Blockburn | P. St 1 n | 310,750 |
| Chilbring. | A Smith | 10,000 |
| Chester le Street | I. W. Zarla | - |
| Danden | A William | 9,450 |
| Derby | I H Thomas | 9,740 |
| Deptiond | C.W. Bevernan | 6,317 |
| Glamegan, S | W Brace | FHL2561 |
| Chambagan, Gorses | I Williams | Lake |
| Cotton | - I. Hodge | 7,849 |
| File, W. | W Adamson | 6,325 |
| Halifax | - I- Parker | 9,515 |
| Hadamshire | 1 Wadsworth | 3,546 |
| True | S. Walth | 7,377 |
| Leeds E | _]_ O'Gaudy | 4,000 |
| Leicester | J. R. MacDonald | 11,005 |
| Manchester E. | I E Switzen | 1,174 |
| Manchester, N.1 | J. R. Clypes | 4,371 |
| Meanmath . | T. Richards | |
| Newsanth | W. Hudson | 50,541 |
| Normanton | F. Hall | |
| Norwall . | G. H. Roberts | 1 50,003 |
| Rhondda | W. Maalian | 9,095 |
| Sanderland | F. W. Goldstone | 11,267 |
| Stational, N.W. | S. Finney | |
| stockport | G. J. Wardle | 5,094 |
| Weedwich | W Copeks | 8,850 |
| West Ham, S. | W Thorne | 9,345 |
| Westhoughton | W. I. Wilson | 9,054 |
| Whitehaven | T Ri Landson | hatta |

*Unopposed at Bye-Election *Un-yq-sec.

SESSION 1918.

Officers:

Chairman MR W ADAMSON Secretary MR CHARLES DUNCAS Chief Whip MR JAS PALKER

Junior Whips : Rr Hox C W. Pewrones and Ma W. Lynn William

Party Room: No. 40, House of Commons

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